

# The Classical Numismatic REVIEW

*Incorporating the Seaby Coin and Medal Bulletin*



# CNG

Classical Numismatic Group Inc.

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# The Classical Numismatic Review

Volume XXII, 3

To our old and new customers alike, welcome to the world of Classical Numismatic Group and her affiliated company Seaby Coins. Our operations are under the management of our two senior directors: Victor England manages the Pennsylvania office while Eric McFadden brings direction to the London office. As this issue of the *Review* is being distributed to our active mailing list as well as our new customers, we would like to take this opportunity to give you, our readers, a little background about ourselves.

For the past twenty-two years we have been quietly building a full-service numismatic company dedicated to serving the needs of our customers in the fields of ancient, world and British numismatics. When you become a customer of our firm, we hope that it is for the long term. The passion behind collecting coins manifests itself over many years. We are here to help you build your collection at reasonable prices, to offer the books and supplies that help increase your knowledge and understanding of the field, and to help you sell either individual pieces that no longer fit your collecting patterns, or when the time comes, to help you sell your entire collection.

For those of you who have never had the opportunity to visit us in Lancaster, Pennsylvania let us tell you a little about our operation here. The home of *Classical Numismatic Group* is a one-time farmhouse, built in the mid 1850's. During its 140 years, this rambling three story structure served first as a private residence and later as an antique gallery. Now, we have every bit of space filled with our offices, library, new and used book inventory, and shipping department. We still have room for expansion, though, in the original brick barn behind the house.

Our numismatic staff includes six specialists (Kerry, Barry, John, Jeff, Eric and Victor) who have over 150 years of combined numismatic experience. Accounting, mailing and general operations in Lancaster are handled by Cathy, Karen, Carol, and Dawn. If you are ever in the area, please give us a call and come by for a visit. In any given month, we see numerous customers and dealers who are visiting or happen to find themselves in the area. From Lancaster we research and produce all of the company catalogues. With four auctions and three *Reviews* a year, it seems we are constantly in production for one project or another.

Assisting our operations in California is Dr. Larry Adams. Larry, an active collector for over thirty years, joined us in 1995 as our west coast representative.

Several years ago, we had the opportunity to take over the operations of the coin department of B.A. Seaby Ltd in London. From this opportunity emerged our London operation under the name of *Seaby Coins*. The London office is under the direction and numismatic guidance of Eric, who acts as our regular representative and buyer in the European marketplace. Eric is aided by Johanna and Tina in keeping order in the day to day operations. From our office on Old Bond Street, we have a window on the world. London is a favorite destination of many of our customers wherever they might be based. In any given week it is not unusual for us to see customers from as far away as Australia, America, the Orient and the Continent.

Again, let us extend warm greetings to all of you. We hope you are able to find the time to enjoy this issue of the *Review*. Classical numismatics, by its nature, is a specialized field that sets us apart from the rush and pressures of day-to-day life. We invite you to take the time to learn and study about our numismatic heritage.



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# Selling Your Coins Through Auction

Are you thinking of selling part or all of your collection? If so, then we would like to help you! Over the last nine years we have established a reputation of being one of the leading auction houses in the world for ancient, medieval and modern world coinage. We have worked hard to earn this reputation by representing both sellers and buyers with total honesty, integrity and confidentiality.

Whether you have one coin or 1,000 coins that you want to sell, we can help you achieve the maximum market price for your coins. All you have to do is give either of our offices a quick call and we can discuss your needs and tailor an auction plan (or an outright purchase if necessary) that will help you with the orderly and efficient disposal of your coin collection via one of our fully-illustrated catalogues.

We hold four auctions per year and have done so on a consistent basis since 1989. We have two mail bid sales each year, one in March and the other in September, and we have two public auctions each year in conjunction with the New York International Numismatic Conventions (May and December), the leading ancient and world coinage conventions in the world. You can rest assured that if we tell you that we are having a March mail bid sale or a public auction in conjunction with the December New York International Numismatic Convention, then the sale will take place on a timely basis, not delayed by one excuse or another!

The combined mailing list of Classical Numismatic Group and its subsidiary, Seaby Coins, is one of the strongest collector-based mailing lists in the world (over fifteen thousand names strong). We mail our fully-illustrated catalogues to over four thousand active collectors in over thirty countries, and our typical sale receives over one thousand bid sheets (an industry high 25% return rate on catalogues mailed)! This means that the highest possible number of collectors will see your coins and have the opportunity to bid on them. And these collectors specialize in ancient and world coins assuring that your collection is exposed to the proper audience.

We offer competitive commission rates to the seller, a 10% buyer's fee, prompt settlement terms, complete insurance coverage on your collection once it is in our possession and some of the best researched and illustrated sale catalogues in the business. And we specialize in specialized collections!

We are just as adept at selling your one hundred dollar Roman denarius as your twenty thousand dollar gold aureus. In fact we are one of the few auction houses to consistently feature coins in the \$100 to \$500 range in our catalogues. Many other firms simply just place them in bulk lots and hope that dealers buy them on the floor to avoid any returns. Our goal is to help you realize the most for your coins and we do so by individually lotting as many of them as possible. This also pleases our collectors as it gives them the opportunity to buy the individual coin that they have been searching for and not a quantity of coins, most of which they will have to sell themselves.

If you have been seriously considering selling any or all of your collection, then please call us or write to us so that we can start discussing the proper sale and presentation of your important collection through a CNG auction venue!

## Coins (and Books) Wanted!

If you have coins to sell, either a few pieces or an entire collection, we want to buy. As one of the largest dealers in Ancient, Medieval and British coins, we must buy constantly to supply our customers. We need your coins, and we will pay top prices for them.

If you prefer to sell at auction, we also offer you the alternative of consigning to one of our frequent sales. Our carefully researched and illustrated catalogues are distributed to thousands of active buyers throughout the world, assuring you that your coins will receive wide exposure and competitive bidding. Our commission rates are reasonable, our settlements prompt, and you will find our staff a delight to deal with by phone, mail, or in person.

If you have considered selling your numismatic library, you will be pleasantly surprised at the prices we can obtain for you. We can either purchase outright or place your books in one of our highly successful auctions of numismatic literature.

We will be pleased to discuss the best method of sale based on your individual needs. If your collection warrants, we will travel to see you. When you are thinking of selling, please contact one of the following:

- In Lancaster, Kerry Wetterstrom
- In London, Eric McFadden

## Do You Bid at Auction? Would You Like Us To Represent you?

We attend major auctions of classical coins in the USA and Europe. May we include you among the customers we represent? We offer full service for auction bidders:

- Careful inspection of lots prior to auction to verify accuracy of description and grade
- Expert advice on appropriate bidding levels
- Conscientious execution of bids
- Friendly personal service

Our charge is a reasonable 5% commission on purchases. Contact Victor England in Lancaster or Eric McFadden in London.

## Classical Numismatic Group Publications

**Classical Numismatic Group** issues a variety of publications each year. The *Classical Numismatic Review*, which you are currently reading, is published three times a year, in January, June and September. The *Review* is packed with club and trade information, articles, book reviews, information about our company, a small selection of highlights from inventory, a full selection of special coin offerings and a complete listing of books and supplies that we offer for sale. This publication is distributed to over 10,000 customers worldwide. In addition to the *Review*, we also publish four Classical Numismatic Group Auctions a year. These sales offer thousands of coins and books for sale at mail and public auction. If you are a serious buyer of Ancient, World or British coins, you should be receiving these catalogues.

If you are only receiving the *Review* and you would also like to receive our auction catalogues, we offer two options. The simplest method is to subscribe. Our subscription rates (\$75/£50 for US, Canada and UK, \$150/£100 for the rest of the world) only offset a portion of our actual postage and printing costs. Subscription information is included on the order form. The second method is just as easy. Spend at least \$300/£200 with us in this issue and we'll send you our full compliment of catalogues for 1997. If you spend \$750/£500 or more with us in 1997, we'll send you our publications at no charge in 1998.





# TRITON I

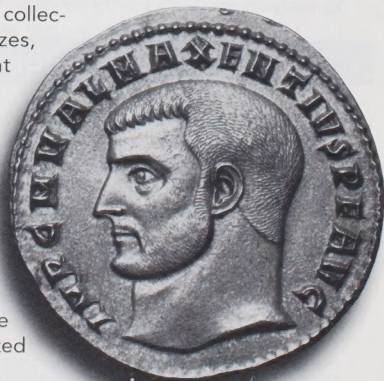
New York, December 2-3, 1997

**Classical Numismatic Group, Inc.** of Lancaster, Pennsylvania and London, England, in conjunction with **Freeman & Sear** of Los Angeles, California and **Numismatica Ars Classica** of Zurich, Switzerland are pleased to announce an important joint numismatic auction to be held on December 2 and 3, 1997. This sale, named Triton I (after an ancient Greek male sea god, the son of Poseidon), will feature important classical numismatic rarities. This sale will be held in New York in conjunction with the New York International Numismatic Convention at the World Trade Center.



This sale will feature over 2,000 lots. Important pedigreed Greek coins from an old European collection, very important Roman provincial, an extensive offering of Republican Aes Grave, exceptional Republican struck bronze from the Goodman collection of Roman Republican, over 100 lots of Roman gold (including all of the Twelve Caesars), Roman duplicates from the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, several important gold, silver and bronze Roman medallions (*see the front cover for an exceptional gold medallion of Maxentius*), an exceptional collection of Roman middle bronzes, Byzantine, British and important Italian and Papal, are amongst the offerings.

The Goodman collection is the most comprehensive collection of struck Republican bronzes offered at public auction this century. It is only surpassed by the Borgehesi Collection offered in 1891. All proceeds from the Goodman collection are being donated by the consignor to charity.





## TRITON I Catalogue Information

Catalogues will be available November 1, 1997.

- Catalogues will be sent to the active mailing list of the participating firms at no charge. Additional catalogues can be ordered. Order as item # Triton 1 Card @ \$20.00
- A limited number of hard cover editions will be prepared. Order by November 1, 1997
- Hardbound Triton 1. Order as item # Triton 1 Special @ \$50.00

## Editorial

The International Numismatic Congress in Berlin was well attended. Kerry, John and Victor attended numerous lectures, and we were able to meet many collectors and scholars whom we have been corresponding with over the last few years. It is refreshing to see so many people getting together to discuss the study of numismatics. With the opening up of the former eastern block many new discoveries await numismatists. The coin exhibit at the Pergamum Museum in Berlin is worth a visit if you are in the area. Many of these coins have not been on public view for many years.

Our 43rd auction closed with over 1250 active bidders keenly competing for many rarities on offer. The Provincial and Republican sections had extensive bidding with many of the pieces selling well over the estimates. It is also a very healthy sign that common Roman and Greek pieces were attracting bids, indicating that prices on common pieces have now reached a level that customers are willing to actively support.

There continues to be a shortage of nice old collection material on the market, and attractive coins are selling rapidly from dealer stocks. This list offers a selection of over 150 choice coins at fixed prices as well as a nice selection of specials, many of them new offerings. Twelve new titles have been added to the book list. We are happy to note that next year will be a banner one for new publications. Coming out early next year are books in honor of Martin Price and a new book by David Sear on Imperialism. Rumor has it that volume 2 of *Roman Provincial Coins* might make it to market by the end of next year. We have a new book out. See the book section for further information.

Production is well underway for our joint auction venture in December. *Triton 1* should be a wonderful opportunity for our customers to acquire important pieces they might have been seeking for some time. See pages 6-7 for further information on this sale.

This is the last fixed price list for 1997. We want to thank everyone for their support during the year. We hope to see some of you in our travels this fall as we attend the various shows and auctions.

Victor England  
Eric J. McFadden





3



4



23



5



16



40

## Selections From Our Inventory

### GREEK



1. **SPAIN, Osca (Bolskan).** Circa 80-72 BC. Æ 24mm (8.28 gm). Male head left; dolphin behind / Iberian legend BOLSKAN, horseman with lance riding right; star above. Villaronga pg. 211, 4; Burgos 1505. EF, choice green patina. \$465/£290

2. **CELTS, Transylvania. Imitation of Philip II.** Circa 3rd Century BC. AR Tetradrachm (12.28 gm). Crude head right, hair on forehead in large roll / Rider on horseback left; B. CCCBM I 72; Göbl 308. Toned, good VF. \$975/£600

*This interesting type of Philip II imitation has been found only in Transylvania. The curious B attached to the crest of the rider's helmet is perhaps a survival of the word ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ.*

3. **CALABRIA, Tarentum.** Circa 380-344 BC. AR Diobol (1.26 gm). Head of Athena right, wearing crested Attic helmet decorated with Skylla hurling stone / Herakles wrestling lion; strigil above. Vlasto 1329; SNG ANS—. EF, lightly toned. An exceptional fraction from Tarentum. \$465/£290

*The strigil was a curved strip of metal used to remove dirt and oil after bathing. Its use as a motif in coinage is usually associated with the representation of an athlete.*



4. **SICILY, Gela.** Circa 490/80-480/75 BC. AR Didrachm (8.45 gm). Naked rider on prancing horse right, wielding spear in raised right hand / CE—A, forepart of manheaded bull right. Cf. G.K. Jenkins, *The Coinage of Gela*, *AMuGS II* (1970), 7 (same reverse die); cf. SNG ANS 4. Toned EF. \$2400/£1500

*The beautiful style of the manheaded bull, itself a representation of the river Gelas, has made the coins of Gela one of the more popular series amongst collectors of Sicilian coinage.*



5



6 AV



5. **SICILY, Leontini.** Circa 476-468 BC. AR Tetradrachm (17.50 gm). Charioteer driving quadriga right; Victory holding wreath and flying right above / ΛΕΟΝΤΙΝΟ, head of roaring lion right, surrounded by four barley grains. SNG ANS 201 (same dies); cf. Dewing 620. Toned, near EF. **\$2400/£1500**

*Founded by Chalkidians from Euboea, Leontini soon prospered from its exploitation of the fertile plain of Catania in Sicily. The depiction of barley grains on the coinage of Leontini is a symbolic representation of the agricultural plenty which produced its wealth.*

6. **SICILY, Syracuse. Agathokles.** 317-289 BC. AV Double Dekadrachm (5.70 gm). Struck circa 295 BC. Head of Athena right, wearing crested Corinthian helmet decorated with gryphon / ΑΓΑΘΟΚΛΕΟΣ above, ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ below, winged thunderbolt; EY monogram. G.K. Jenkins, "Electrum Coinage at Syracuse" in *Essays in Greek Coinage Presented to Stanley Robinson*, pl. 15, C (same dies); SNG ANS 702. EF. **\$3975/£2500**

*The double dekadrachm issue of Agathokles was short-lived and is known from only six obverse and seven reverse dies with numerous interlinkings, which suggests a specific occasion for its striking. Three alternatives proposed are the assumption of the royal title by Agathokles in 304 BC, the marriage of his daughter to Pyrrhos of Epeiros in 297, or renewed preparations for war against Carthage, the last of which is the most plausible.*



7



7. **SICILY, Syracuse. Agathokles.** 317-289 BC. AR Tetradrachm (16.94 gm). Struck circa 310-306/5 BC. Wreathed head of Artemis-Arethusa left, wearing necklace and earrings, surrounded by three dolphins; NK monogram beneath / ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ in exergue, AN monogram below, charioteer holding long kentron in charging quadriga left; triskeles above. M. Ierardi, "The Tetradrachms of Agathokles of Syracuse: A Preliminary Study," *ANS AJN* 7-8 (1995-96), 4 (O1/R4); SNG ANS 637; Dewing 943. Superb EF, the earliest and finest style engraving. **\$4950/£3100**

*Michael Ierardi suggests that this tetradrachm issue was struck to pay for the war with Carthage. The designs employed revived types associated with Dionysios's war with Carthage a century earlier, and the denomination, which had not been struck since those times, suggests an increased military expenditure. Ierardi further suggests that Agathokles may have been competing with the Carthaginians for mercenaries, and that the recognition of this type would help ensure the acceptability of his silver.*





8 AV

8. **SICILY, Syracuse. Hiketas.** 287-278 BC. AV Dekadrachm (Hemistater) (4.26 gm). Struck circa 279/8 BC. ΣΥΠΑΚΟΙΩΝ, wreathed head of Persephone left; cornucopiae behind / ΕΠΙ ΙΚΕΤΑ in exergue, Nike holding long kentron in galloping biga right; annulet, Φ, Θ in fields. T.V. Buttrey, "The Morgantina Gold Hoard and the Coinage of Hiketas," *NC* (1973), 4-I; SNG ANS 778. EF. **\$3975/£2500**

Little is known of the tyrant Hiketas other than what Diodorus relates. He established himself as supreme ruler of Syracuse soon after the expulsion of the Campanian mercenaries (afterwards known as the Mamertines), and inflicted a severe defeat on the Agrigentines under Phintias. Shortly afterwards, however, he himself suffered defeat in battle against the Carthaginians near the river Terias. This did not bode well for his rule, for at length he was expelled from Syracuse by Thynion not long before the arrival of Pyrrhos of Epeiros, and nothing more is heard of him.

9. **SICILY, Siculo-Punic.** Circa 350-305 BC. AR Tetradrachm (16.97 gm). "Ras Melkart." Punic legend 'rsmqlrt' in exergue, charioteer driving charging quadriga right, being crowned by Nike flying left above / Wreathed head of Artemis-Arethusa right, wearing earring and necklace, surrounded by four dolphins. G.K. Jenkins, "Coins of Punic Sicily, Part I," *SNR* 50 (1971), 47 (O16/R36); SNG ANS 731 (same dies). Nice EF. **\$2400/£1500**

The location of this Punic mint has not been satisfactorily established. In his study of the coinage, G.K. Jenkins suggests Selinos as a possibility. More recently, Leo Miltenberg (see Leo Miltenberg, "RSM-LQRT," in *Essays in Honour of Robert Carson and Kenneth Jenkins*) has suggested that the Punic legend 'rsmqlrt' does not indicate a city at all, but rather a Carthaginian provincial institution in Western Sicily. He cites four other series with Punic legends (qrthdst, 'mmhnt, mhsbn, b'rst) that have all been determined to signify institutions, and questions the validity of not identifying the 'rsmqlrt' series as a fifth.

The standard reference on Siculo-Punic coins by G.K. Jenkins, previously available only as a series of articles in the *Schweizerische Numismatische Rundschau* (SNR), has just been printed in book form. See the books section for details.

10. **SICILY, Siculo-Punic.** Circa 320-300 BC. AR Tetradrachm (17.12 gm). Wreathed head of Artemis-Arethusa left, wearing earring and necklace, surrounded by four dolphins / Horsehead left, palm behind; Punic 'M' below. G.K. Jenkins, "Coins of Punic Sicily, Part 3," *SNR* 56 (1977), 232 (O72'/R199); SNG Copenhagen 86 (same obverse die). Nice EF. **\$2400/£1500**

A standard iconographical feature of Carthaginian and Siculo-Punic coinage is the palm tree. The Greek word φοινικητιος meaning "of the date palm" has the same root as the noun Φοινίκη or Phoenicia. Hence, the palm tree is probably a punning or speaking type which alludes to the Phoenician origin of the Carthaginians, a Punic-speaking people.



11



12



11. **SICILY, Siculo-Punic.** Circa 213-210 BC. AR Half Shekel (3.32 gm). Carthage mint(?). Laureate head of Melkart left / Elephant walking right; Punic 'A' below. A. Burnett, "The Enna hoard and the silver coinage of the Syracusan democracy," SNR 62 (1983), 129 (same dies); SNG Copenhagen 383. EF. **\$2000/£1250**

Robinson tentatively assigns this series to Gades in Spain circa 209 BC (see E.S.G. Robinson, "Punic Coins of Spain and their bearing on the Roman Republican Series," in **Roman Coinage: Essays Presented to Harold Mattingly**). However, in light of hoard evidence, it has since been independently determined by both G.K. Jenkins and Leandre Villaronga that a reattribution to the period of the Punic expedition to Sicily circa 213-210 is necessary. The attribution to mint, although far from certain, is based on die orientation and its similarity to that featured at Carthage, as well as its contrast with that of contemporary Siculo-Punic coinage.

12. **KINGS OF MACEDON. Philip II.** 359-336 BC. AR Tetradrachm (14.34 gm). Struck 323/2-316/5 BC. Amphipolis mint. Laureate head of Zeus right / ΦΙΛΙΠ-ΠΟΥ, youth on horseback right, holding branch; Π• monogram between horse's legs, dolphin below. Le Rider pl. 46, 19; cf. SNG Copenhagen 559. Attractively toned EF. **\$2000/£1250**

Just as his son Alexander III's coin types continued to be minted after his death, the tetradrachms of Philip II continued to be issued posthumously. Philip was a great personality and the type was well known throughout Hellenistic Greece; thus there was certain acceptance of his coins in trade.



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14



13. **KINGS OF MACEDON. Alexander III.** 336-323 BC. AR Tetradrachm (17.06 gm). Struck circa 323-320 BC. 'Amphipolis' mint. Head of Herakles right, wearing lion's skin head-dress / ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ around, Zeus enthroned left, holding eagle and sceptre; in field to left, Athena Promachos. Price 109; Müller 650. EF, nicely centered. **\$975/£600**

14. **KINGS OF MACEDON. Alexander III.** 336-323 BC. AR Tetradrachm (17.04 gm). Struck year 24 (=323/2 BC) of the old era. Ake mint. Head of Herakles right, wearing lion's skin head-dress / ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ to right, Zeus enthroned left, holding eagle and sceptre; in field to left, date in Phoenician numerals. Price 3260a (same dies); Newell 20; Müller—. Toned VF. **\$360/£225**

The Alexander tetradrachms of the Phoenician city of Ake use Phoenician numerals (years 20-39) for dating. However, there has been some debate as to exactly which dating system was used, with 346/5 BC being the most suitable starting point, and one which conveniently coincides with the return of Persian power to the area after the revolt of Tenes and the institution of a puppet government by the Persians at the stronghold of Ake.



15



16



15. **KINGS OF MACEDON. Alexander III.** 336-323 BC. AR Tetradrachm (17.05 gm). Struck year 9 (=307/6 BC) of the new era. Ake mint. Head of Herakles right, wearing lion's skin headdress / ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ to right, Zeus enthroned left, holding eagle and sceptre; in field to left, date in Phoenician numerals. Price 3299a (same obverse die); Newell 48; Müller— . Toned, good VF. \$360/£225

*In 308/7 BC (in the middle of year 39 of the old era), there was an abrupt change in the dating system to a new era based on years 8 through 11. In a study of this series earlier this century, Edward Newell (see E.T Newell, *The Dated Alexander Coinage of Sidon and Ake*, Yale Oriental Series: Researches 2) was probably correct when he attributed to the arrival of Antigonos in the region the change to the new era. Four years after his arrival, he opened the mint at Tyre which introduced important coinages for both himself and subsequently for Demetrios Poliorketes.*

16. **KINGS OF MACEDON. Alexander III.** 336-323 BC. AR Tetradrachm (17.09 gm). Struck circa 325-323 BC. 'Babylon' mint. Head of Herakles right, wearing lion's skin headdress / ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ to right, ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ below, Zeus enthroned left, holding eagle and sceptre; in field to left, winged thunderbolt and small M; beneath throne, monogram. Price 3680; Müller—. FDC, superb artistic merit. Amongst the finest known tetradrachms of Alexander the Great \$4000/£2500



17



17. **KINGS OF MACEDON. Philip V.** 221-179 BC. AR Tetradrachm (17.03 gm). Struck circa 220 BC. Pella mint. Diademed head of Philip V right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ, Athena Alkidemos advancing left, brandishing thunderbolt and holding shield; ΣΡ monogram to left, ΕΡ monogram to right. Mammoth, "Silbermünzen des Königs Philip V von Makedonien," ZfN (1930), 1 and pl. 5, 2 (same dies); SNG Lockett 1528 (same dies). EF, very rare. SOLD

*Philip's character can be summed up in Polybios' words that "there are few monarchs of whom more good or more evil could justly be said." Ascending the throne at the age of eight, Philip had a long and dynamic reign. He began as a just ruler whom the Macedonians and subject peoples adored, but later became known for his cruelty and constant wars with his neighbors. His most notable mistake was incurring the enmity of the Romans, and he was soundly defeated by them under the command of the general T. Quinctius Flaminius at the battle of Kynoskephalai in 197 BC. The Macedonian state was never to recover, eventually being annexed by Rome in 168, and was finally constituted a Roman province in 148.*





18 AV



19

18. **KINGS OF THRACE. Lysimachos.** 323-281 BC. AV Stater (8.53 gm). Struck 297/6-282/1 BC. Alexandria in Troas mint. Diademed head of deified Alexander right, with horn of Ammon / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΟΥ, Athena Nikephoros seated left, holding Nike and resting elbow on shield, sceptre leaning against her; ME monogram to left, head of eagle (only partially visible) in exergue. Thompson, "The Mints of Lysimachus," in *Essays in Greek Coinage Presented to Stanley Robinson*, 141 (same obverse die); cf. Müller 483 (uncertain mint). FDC, fully lustrous. *Of the finest hellenistic style.* **\$9500/£6000**

*The die engraving for Lysimachos' gold ordinarily displays no more than a pedestrian competence. The exceptional subtlety of this superb portrait elevates it to the level of fine sculpture.*

19. **KINGS OF THRACE. Skostokos.** Circa 281-278 BC(?). AR Tetradrachm (15.72 gm). Ainos mint(?). Diademed head of deified Alexander right, with horn of Ammon / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΟΥ, ΣΚΟΣΤΟΚΟΥ in exergue, Athena Nikephoros seated left, holding Nike and resting elbow on shield, sceptre leaning against her; herme to left. Youroukova, *Coins of the Ancient Thracians*, BAR Supplementary Series 4 (1976), pl. X, 103-104; SNG Copenhagen 1171. Toned VF, a few small reverse scratches. Extremely rare. **\$5750/£3600**

*Of Skostokos, nothing is mentioned by the ancient historians, and very little by modern numismatists. It would appear that Skostokos gained control of the region around Ainos immediately after the death of Lysimachos, and probably perished a few years later in a struggle with the Celts.*



20

20. **THRACE, Maroneia.** Circa 386/5-348/7 BC. AR Stater (11.31 gm). Horse rearing left; eagle above / ΕΠΙ ΗΓΗΣ-ΑΓΟΡΕΩ, grapevine with four bunches of grapes, within square. Schönert-Geiss 501/2 (V40/R66); West, *Fifth and Fourth Century Gold Coins from the Thracian Coast*, ANS NNM 40 (1929), 97; Münsterberg op. 94. EF. **\$2800/£1750**

*Homer tells us (Od. ix. 196ff) of the superior character of the wine produced by the Maroneians, and that it was capable of mixture with twenty times its quantity with water. Thus it is not surprising that the people of Maroneia venerated Dionysos and employed the grapevine as a reverse type on their coinage. Interestingly, according to Pliny, on an experiment being made by Mucianus who doubted the truth of Homer's statement, the wine was found capable of bearing an even larger proportion of water.*



21



22



- 21. THRACE, Sestos.** Circa 300 BC. Æ 20mm (6.45 gm). Head of Demeter left, wearing necklace, earring and wreath of grain ears / Hermes standing left, holding caduceus and purse; on left, amphora, on right, grain ear and ΣΗ. SNG Copenhagen 931; Weber 2460. Near EF, green patina. **\$475/£300**

*Mythologically, Sestos is renowned for the tale of Hero and Leander, and historically for the crossing of the Persians over the bridge which Xerxes caused to be constructed across the Hellespont.*

- 22. THRACE, Thasos.** Circa 435-411 BC. AR Stater (8.43 gm). Naked, ithyphallic satyr carrying off protesting nymph, dolphin in field to right / Quadripartite incuse square. SNG Copenhagen 1017; Dewing 1324. Toned VF, rare variety. **\$1600/£1000**

*The overtly sexual displays seen on many early Greek coins can be disconcerting to the modern eye, viewing them through the lens of centuries of Christian fulminations against "paganism" and its erotic excesses. These scenes are at their most graphic in northern Greece, for example on the island of Thasos off Thrace, showing the interplay of nymphs and satyrs, and on archaic coins of "Lete" (probably not struck by that small town, but by one of the tribes of the plains of Macedon). The towns and tribes of this region were only newly introduced to the "civilizing" influences of the south, and were still close to their roots in farming and herding cultures. Their gods were not the Olympian superbeings, but the spirits of nature, and the emphasis was on celebrating the fecundity of fields and flocks. In the gamboling of nymphs and satyrs we see the often humorous ritualization of a wish for prosperity.*



23



24



- 23. ATTICA, Athens.** After 449 BC. AR Tetradrachm (17.10 gm). Head of Athena right, wearing crested Attic helmet adorned with three olive-leaves and floral scroll / Owl standing right, head facing; above on left, olive-spray and crescent; on right, ΑΘΕ. SNG Copenhagen 31. Choice EF. **\$2000/£1250**

- 24. BITHYNIA, Kings of.** Nikomedes IV. 94-74 BC. AR Tetradrachm (16.67 gm). Struck year 205 (=94/3 BC). Diademed head right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ ΝΙΚΟΜΗΔΟΥ, Zeus standing left, holding wreath and sceptre; to inner left, eagle on thunderbolt, monogram and dynastic date (ΕΣ). Waddington Recueil pg. 232. BMC Pontus etc.—. Toned EF. Wonderful helenistic portrait **\$1600/£1000**

*Nikomedes IV was the last king of Bithynia, and bequeathed his kingdom to the Romans in his will. His reign was troubled as he was constantly in the midst of the conflicts between Rome and Mithradates VI of Pontus.*



25



26



27



**25. IONIA, Ephesos.** Circa 387-295. AR Tetradrachm (14.95 gm). E-Φ, bee / Forepart of stag right, head turned left, palm tree behind; EOEAΘΩN magistrate. SNG von Aulock 1829; BMC Ionia—; Münsterberg—; Head—. EF. **\$1600/£1000**

*This long series of Ephesian tetradrachms, lasting nearly a century, was based on the Chian (Rhodian) standard of 15.6 gm, and was adopted to facilitate exchange with the Spartans and their allies who used the Aeginetan standard. There existed an easy relationship between the two standards: a Chian tetradrachm was exactly 1/40 of an Aeginetan mina.*

**26. IONIA, Smyrna.** After 165 BC. AR Tetradrachm (15.77 gm). Turreted head of Tyche right / ΣΜΥΡ/ΝΑΙΩΝ above, ΕΡΜΙΠΙΠΟΣ ΣΙΠΥΛΟΥ below, lion crouching right, within wreath. J.G. Milne, "The Silver Coinage of Smyrna," NC (1914), 27 (obverse die BB); Weber 6115 (this coin); McClean 8278. Toned, near EF. Very rare. **\$2000/£1250**

*Ex Hess/Leu Auktion 45 (12-13 May 1970), lot 272*

*No theory has been put forth to explain this exceptional issue which departs so dramatically from the normal issues of Smyrna.*

**27. CARIAN SATRAPS.** Pixodaros. 340-334 BC. AR Didrachm (7.05 gm). Laureate head of Apollo, facing slightly right / ΠΙΞΩΔΑΡΟΥ, Zeus Labraundos standing right, holding double axe (labrys) and lotus-tipped sceptre. SNG von Aulock 2375; BMFA 2007. Superb EF, underlying luster. Exceptional artistic merit. **\$3200/£2000**

*The Achaemenid kings, ruling a land empire too vast to be governed from Persepolis, divided their territory into twenty districts, to be administered by satraps, from the Old Persian xshathrapavan - "kingdom protector". These governors were responsible for all military and fiscal affairs within their provinces, and many quickly followed the route to wealth and power, often becoming dire threats to their royal overlords.*

*The satrap Hekatomnos struck the first coins for the Carian satrapy, copying the lion types of Miletos. His later issues introduced the type that would become the emblem of the dynasty, the figure of Zeus Labraundos, whose temple was near Mylasa, the birthplace of Hekatomnos. Hekatomnos died in 377 BC, to be followed in succession by each of his three sons, Maussollos, Hidrieus and Pixodaros. Maussollos expanded his territory at the expense of his neighboring satraps and in defiance of the Persian king. He moved the capital from Mylasa to Halikarnassos, at which point the facing head of Apollo/Helios becomes the standard obverse type for the Carian tetradrachm. Hidrieus continued in his brother's footsteps and added the islands of Chios, Kos and Rhodes to his domain, three important centers of commerce which had until then managed to fend off the growing Carian empire (which by now it was in all but name).*

*The Carians appear to have overextended themselves, however, for by the reign of Pixodaros the satrap is seen making dynastic marriages to preserve his position between Persia and the Greeks. Rhomtopates, the son-in-law and successor of Pixodaros, would meet the army of Alexander in battle, and the Carian dynasty would come to a sudden end, absorbed into the expanding Greek empire.*



28



29



28. **CARIAN ISLANDS. Kos.** Circa 190 BC. AR Tetradrachm (14.98 gm). Head of Herakles right, wearing lion's skin headdress / ΚΑΛΟΝ, crab and bowcase within dotted square; ΕΑΝΘΙΠΠΙΟΣ magistrate below. Cf. SNG von Aulock 2753 (different magistrate); Weber 6630. Toned, good VF. **\$2400/£1500**

*The island of Kos is located in the Myrtoan Sea, nearly opposite the city of Halikarnassos on the western shore of Asia Minor, and the ancient city by the same name as the island was situated on the fertile northeastern end of the island. The representation of a crab was an important reverse type for much of the city's coinage, and although the exact significance of its use remains unknown, it was likely selected because of its close connections with the sea. The city is famous as the home of Hippokrates, who laid the foundations of medical science, and it was noted for the worship of Asklepios.*

29. **CARIAN ISLANDS. Rhodes.** Circa 125-88 BC. AR Drachm (2.88 gm). Radiate head of Helios right / Ρ-O across field, rose; radiant sun, magistrate ΑΝΤΑΙΟΣ. G.K. Jenkins, "Rhodian Plinthophoroi", in **Kraay Mørkholm Essays**, 128; cf. SNG von Aulock 2824. FDC. **\$500/£310**

*Plinthophoroi are coins with the design set within a square incuse, such as that of the reverses of Rhodian drachms of the second century BC, and the term comes from the Greek word πλινθος, meaning any square or rectangular-shaped object.*



30



30. **CILICIAN SATRAPS, Tarsos. Datames.** Circa 378-372 BC. AR Stater (10.86 gm). Facing female head (Arethusa?) / Bust of a warrior right, wearing a crested Attic helmet; Aramaic legend 'TRDMW' = 'Datames.' SNG Levante 79; SNG Paris 258. Toned, choice EF. **\$1600/£1000**

*For a detailed account of the coinage of Datames, see Robert A. Moysey, "The Silver Stater Issues of Pharnabazos and Datames from the mint of Tarsus in Cilicia," ANS MN 31 (1986), pp. 7ff.*





31



32



**31. ARTAXIAD KINGS OF ARMENIA. Tigranes II.** 95-56 BC. Æ Tetrachalkon (5.47 gm). Struck after 83 BC. Artaxata mint(?). Draped bust right, wearing Armenian tiara / [ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΣ] ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ [ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ, Tyche of Antioch seated on rock right, holding palm; A before; below, the river goddess of Orontes swimming right. Bedoukian 94. EF, choice earthen patina.

\$320/£200

*Tigranes the Great expanded the boundaries of the Armenian empire, incorporating the kingdoms and territories of Sophene, Commagene, Atropatene, Gorduene, Mesopotamia and part of Cilicia. He also advanced into Palestine and Syria, capturing many of the cities there. In each of the conquered kingdoms, he allowed the ruling dynasty to remain in place, and then styled himself in the Parthian manner, βασιλεὺς βασιλεων, "King of Kings."*

*In 83 BC, he was offered the Seleukid kingdom and invited to rule at Antioch, which he did, although not without some opposition. In deference to the inhabitants of the city for so graciously offering him their kingdom, a new reverse type was employed on his coinage, featuring the Tyche of Antioch, a statue of gilded bronze made by Eutychides of Sikyon in the third century BC.*

**32. SELEUKID KINGS OF SYRIA. Seleukos I.** 312-280 BC. AR Tetradrachm (17.24 gm). Struck circa 292-280 BC. Seleukeia on the Tigris mint. Head of Herakles right, wearing lion's skin headdress / ΣΕΛΕΥΚΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ, Zeus enthroned left, holding eagle and sceptre; monogram in wreath before, K below throne. Newell, ESM 12; Houghton 945. Toned, near EF. Rare.

\$975/£600

*Seleukos I was probably the greatest of the Diodochoi ("successors") who fought over the dismembered empire of Alexander the Great. Seleukos expanded his territories to the east and north, established two capitals from which to rule his vast domain (the first at Seleukeia on the Tigris in the east, and the second at Antioch in Syria in the west), and built an empire which was to last an additional 220 years after his death.*



33



**33. SELEUKID KINGS OF SYRIA. Antiochos VI.** 145-142 BC. AR Tetradrachm (16.83 gm). Struck year 170 (=143/2 BC). Antioch mint. Radiate and diademed head right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΥ, the Dioskouroi riding left with couched lances; ΤΡΥ, ΑΠ monogram, ΣΤΑ and date in fields; all in wreath of lily, ivy and grain ears. Newell, SMA 245; Houghton 236. Choice EF.

\$2000/£1250

*Antiochos VI, Epiphanes was the infant son of Alexander Balas and Cleopatra Thea, and was put forward by the general Diodotos (later called Tryphon) in the revolt at Antioch against Demetrios II. His was only a short reign, for when Tryphon felt his power base sufficiently secure, he deposed and killed the youthful sovereign.*



34



35

34. **PHOENICIA, Arados.** Year 93 (=167/6 BC). AR Drachm (4.21 gm). Bee with straight wings seen from above; date and monogram in fields / ΑΡΑΔΙΩΝ, stag standing right, palm tree behind. BMC Phoenicia—; cf. SNG Copenhagen 31; Dewing 2657. EF, nice full strike.

\$480/£300

35. **PHOENICIA, Tyre.** Year 50 (=77/6 BC). AR Shekel (14.33 gm). Laureate bust of Melkart right, wearing lion's skin notted around neck / ΤΥΡΟΥΙΕΡΑΣ ΚΑΙΑΣΥΛΟΥ, eagle standing left, right foot on prow and palm-branch over far shoulder; date, club, Α and Phoenician "aleph" in fields. BMC Phoenicia pg. 243, 142; cf. SNG Copenhagen 324. Toned, choice EF on a large flan.

\$1200/£750

*The shekel of Tyre is renowned as the most likely candidate for the coin used to pay Judas Iscariot for betraying Jesus. It was in common usage in Judaea and was indeed the only coinage acceptable for payment of the Temple tax.*



36 EL



37



38



39

36. **LYDIA, Kingdom of. Before Kroisos.** Circa 7th Century-561 BC. EL 1/12 Stater (1.17 gm). Lion's head right, with wart on forehead / Incuse punch. Weidauer, Series 15, 79-85; Rosen 654. Good VF.

\$650/£400

37. **ACHAEMENID KINGS OF PERSIA. Darios I.** Circa 500-486 BC. AR Siglos (5.31 gm). Persian king or hero right, in kneeling-running stance, drawing bow / Incuse punch. Carradice Type II, 12-13; Kraay, ACGC, pl. 4, 81. Good VF, nice metal.

\$480/£300

38. **ACHAEMENID KINGS OF PERSIA. Period of Artaxerxes.** Circa 475-420 BC. AR Siglos (5.50 gm). Persian king or hero right, in kneeling-running stance, holding bow and spear / Incuse punch. Carradice Type IIIa, 14-15; Kraay, ACGC, pl. 4, 83. Good VF, nice metal.

\$225/£140

39. **KINGS OF PARTHIA. Gotarzes II.** 40-51 AD. AR Tetradrachm (13.75 gm). Year 361 (49/50 AD). Seleukeia mint. Diademed head left / Tyche standing left, holding cornucopiae and presenting diadem to King enthroned left; date ΑΕΤ above diadem. Sellwood 65.25; Shore 362. Toned EF.

\$480/£300

*The coinage of Gotarzes II closely copies that of his predecessor, Artabanos II, and thus presents difficulties for the numismatist in distinguishing the coinage of one from the other.*



40



41



**40. INDO-GREEK KINGS OF BAKTRIA. Antimachos.** Circa 185-170 BC. AR Tetradrachm (16.81 gm). Balkh mint(?). Diademed and draped bust right, wearing kausia / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΘΕΟΥ ANTIMAXOY, Poseidon standing facing, wearing drapery over left shoulder and lower limbs, holding trident and a filleted palm branch; monogram. Bopearachchi Série 1D, 5-7; MIG 124b. FDC. Exceptional Hellenistic art. Superior workmanship and engraving to pieces normally encountered in this series. **\$5750/£3600**

*Antimachos led the dynastic cause against the revolt of Eukratides. He associated his nephews, Agathokles and Pantaleon, with himself as co-rulers, but even this triad was not enough to defeat the formidable Eukratides, and they soon perished in the conflict.*

**41. INDO-GREEK KINGS OF BAKTRIA. Heliokles I.** Circa 145-130 BC. AR Drachm (4.08 gm). Balkh mint(?). Diademed and draped bust right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΔΙΚΑΙΟΥ ΗΛΙΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ, Zeus standing facing, holding thunderbolt and sceptre; Δ. Bopearachchi Série 2B; MIG 285c. Toned EF. **\$550/£350**

*Heliokles was the son of perhaps the greatest of the Baktrian kings, Eukratides, whom he promptly killed when he felt he was powerful enough. His qualities were nowhere near those of his father, and within a few years of his accession he lost a large portion of his territories to Scythian nomads. He was finally overthrown by Philoxenos and Diomedes.*



42



**42. PTOLEMAIC KINGS OF EGYPT. Ptolemy I.** 323-283 BC. AR Tetradrachm (15.69 gm). Struck circa 310-305 BC. Head of Alexander right, wearing elephant's skin headdress / ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ, Athena Alkidemos advancing right, brandishing spear and carrying shield; ΔΙ, helmet and eagle in field. Svoronos 169; SNG Copenhagen 30. Toned EF. **\$1600/£1000**

*Ptolemy I was a close childhood friend of Alexander the Great, and served as his general, distinguishing himself by his leadership and tactical abilities against the Persians. Upon Alexander's death, Ptolemy received Egypt as his satrapy. Until 305 he ruled only as satrap, at which time he followed suit with the other Diadochoi and took the title of 'king.' His reign continued until 283, when he died peacefully in his bed, the only one of the Diadochoi to do so.*





43 AV



44

- 43. PTOLEMAIC KINGS OF EGYPT. Ptolemy III.** 246-221 BC. AV Oktodrachm (Mnaieion) (27.71 gm). Ptolemaic standard. Struck after 265/4 BC. Alexandria mint. Conjoined busts right of Ptolemy II, diademed and draped, and Arsinoe II, diademed and veiled; above, ΑΔΕΛΦΩΝ, shield behind / Conjoined busts right of Ptolemy I, diademed and wearing aegis, and Berenike I, diademed and veiled; above, ΘΕΩΝ. Svoronos 603; SNG Copenhagen—. VF. **\$5000/£3125**

*Circa 265/4 a spectacular commemorative coinage was introduced, bearing the portraits of Ptolemy I and Berenike, his wife, on one side and Ptolemy II and Arsinoe II, his wife and sister, on the other side. This coinage is commonly referred to as the Theon Adelphon series, a named derived from the inscription found on the coins. The Theon Adelphon coinage consists of oktodrachms, tetradrachms, didrachms and drachms, much of which was produced by removing earlier gold coinage from circulation and melting it down for restriking.*

- 44. PTOLEMAIC KINGS OF EGYPT. Ptolemy V.** 205-180 BC. AR Tetradrachm (14.17 gm). Diademed bust of Ptolemy right / ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ, eagle standing left on thunderbolt. Svoronos 1231; SNG Copenhagen 245. Toned EF. **\$475/£300**

*The reign of Ptolemy V, who came to the throne at the age of five, was marked by the abuses of unscrupulous and incompetent ministers, in whose hands the reins of government were for many years during the minority of the king. His reign also saw the loss of most of the overseas possessions of the Egyptian empire to the rival kingdoms of Macedon and Syria.*



45

- 45. NUMIDIA, Kings of. Syphax.** 213-202 BC. (7.81 gm). Diademed head left / Rider on galloping horse left, • and Numidian legend 'SPHQ HMMLKT' within rectangle below. SNG Copenhagen 491/2; Mazard 10. VF, brown patina. Extremely rare! **\$1200/£750**

*Syphax was the chief of the Masaesyles tribe of Numidia who supported the Carthaginian cause during the Second Punic War. In 203 BC, he was defeated and captured by the Romans, and spent the remainder of his life in captivity in Italy.*

## ROMAN PROVINCIAL



46



47



46. **CAPPADOCIA, Caesarea.** Nerva. 96-98 AD. AR Didrachm (6.72 gm). COS 4 (=98 AD). AYTOKPAT NEPOYAC KAICAP CEBACTOC, laureate head right / YΠATOC TETAPTOY, Club. Metcalf pg. 102, 45; Sydenham 153. Toned, good VF. **\$320/£200**

*The use of the club as a reverse type on the Caesarean coinage under the Empire mirrors its earlier use under the last of the Cappadocian kings, Archelaos (36 BC-17 AD), and alludes to his traditional descent from Temenos, the son of Herakles.*

47. **SYRIA, Seleukis and Pieria.** Nero and Divus Claudius. 54-68 AD. AR Tetradrachm (14.25 gm). Uncertain Mint. Struck circa 63-68 AD. NERO CLAVD DIVI CLAVD F CAESAR AVG GERM, laureate head of Nero right; star behind / [DI]VOS CLAVD AVG G-ERMANIC PAT[ER AVG], laureate head of Claudius right. RPC 4123; BMC Galatia, etc. pg. 172, 172 (Antioch). Good VF. **\$650/£400**

*These coins were attributed to Caesarea by Sydenham in his study of the coinage of that city. However, although the style does have certain affinities to Caesarean coinage, the differences in legend and reduced fineness of the metal indicate that we must look elsewhere for the mint. Antioch has been suggested for various reasons, but this possibility also remains rather unlikely as the fabric is different from that of other coinage minted there, and more importantly, it would be very difficult to insert the coins into the sequence of late Neronian tetradrachms from Antioch. Until the discovery of additional examples in recorded hoards, the location of the mint that produced this coinage will probably remain a mystery.*



48



48. **SYRIA, Seleukis and Pieria.** Antioch. Trajan. 98-117 AD. AR Tetradrachm (13.83 gm). Struck year 15 (=110/1 AD). • AYTOKP KAIC NEP TPAIANOC CEB ΓEPM ΔAK, laureate head right; below, club and eagle standing right / ΔHMAPX EE IE YPAT E, laureate head of Herakles right. Wruck 159; BMC pg. 36, 4; SNG Copenhagen 193. Lightly toned, good VF. **\$475/£300**



49



50



**49. SYRIA, Seleukis and Pieria. Antioch. Philip I.** 246 AD. Billon Tetradrachm (10.93 gm). ΑΥΤΟΚ Κ Μ ΙΟΥΛ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ CEB, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / ΔΗΜΑΡΧ ΕΞ ΟΥΚΙΑC, ΜΟΝ VΡΒ in exergue, S-C across field, eagle standing facing, head left, holding wreath in beak. Baldus 1; BMC Galatia, etc. pg. 212, 507. Toned, choice EF.

**\$240/£150**

*For a recently published discussion of hoard evidence that increases our knowledge of circulation patterns from this period, see Roger Bland, "Six hoards of Syrian tetradrachms of the third century AD," NC (1991), pp. 1ff.*

**50. CYPRUS. Antoninus Pius and Marcus Aurelius, as Caesar.** 138-161 AD. Æ 31 mm (24.11 gm). ΑΥΤ Κ Τ ΑΙΑ ΑΔΡΙ ΑΝΤΩ-ΝΙΝΟC CEB ΕΥ, laureate and draped bust of Antoninus Pius right / Μ ΑΥΡΗΛΙΟC ΚΑΙ-[CΑΡ ΒΙΟC CEB]ΑC, bare-headed and draped bust of Marcus Aurelius right. Cf. SNG Copenhagen 87; BMC Cyprus pg. 83, 42. Nice VF, brown patina, light surface porosity.

**\$320/£200**

*The attribution to Cyprus of this denomination, as well as a related issue of smaller denomination, is solely based on provenance. G.F. Hill, in his introduction to the coinage in BMC 24, pg. cxxv, § 89, notes the abundance of these coins in Cypriot collections.*



51



52



53



**51. EGYPT, Alexandria. Antoninus Pius.** 138-161 AD. Billon Tetradrachm (14.73 gm). Struck year 11 (=147/8 AD). ΑΝΤΩΝΙΝΟC CEB ΕΥCΕΒ, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / ΕΝΔΕ-ΚΑΤΟV, Antoninus Pius standing right, holding long sceptre, clasp hands with Marcus Aurelius, as Caesar, standing left; L between them. Köln 1571 (same dies); Dattari 2127; BMC 1008; Milne 1954 var.; Curtis X-617. VF. Rare reverse type.

**\$320/£200**

**52. EGYPT, Alexandria. Marcus Aurelius.** 161-180 AD. Æ Tetradrachm (12.02 gm). Struck year 5 (=164/5 AD). Μ ΑΥΡΗΛΙΟ[C] ΑΝΤΟΝΙΝΟC [CΕ], laureate bust left, slight drapery on far shoulder / ΟΜΟΝΟΙΑ, clasped hands; date LE below. Köln 2032 var.; Dattari 3412 var.; BMC 1279 var.; Milne 2514; Curtis 724 var. Good VF, underlying silver. Rare. \$320/£200

**53. EGYPT, Alexandria. Gordian III.** 238-244 AD. Billon Tetradrachm (12.93 gm). Struck year 7 (=244 AD). Α Κ Μ ΑΝΤ Γ-ΟΡΔΙΑΝΟC ΕΥ, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / Eagle standing facing on wreath, wings spread and head right; date L-Z across field. Köln 2671; Dattari pl. XXXI; BMC 1912; Milne 3496; Curtis 1248. Good VF, fully silvered and rare as such.

**\$220/£140**



## ROMAN REPUBLIC



54



55

**54. Anonymous.** Circa 240-225 BC. Æ Aes Grave Uncia (21.71 gm). Helmeted head of Bellona left; • behind / Prow of galley right; • below. Crawford 35/6; Thurlow-Vecchi 56; Haebler pl. 18, 22ff. VF, green and brown patina. Rare this nice. **\$400/£250**

*In his study of the aes grave, Brad Thurlow suggests that, apart from the obvious connotation of power at sea, the prow depicted on the reverse may have been intended as an attribute of the goddess Fortuna, who we know played an important role in early Roman society. It has generally been accepted that the portrait on the obverse depicts the patroness of Rome, Bellona (Diana Victrix), who subsequently appears on denarii as Roma herself.*

**55. Anonymous.** 217-215 BC. Æ Semuncia (5.80 gm). Head of Mercury right, wearing petasos / ROMA above, prow of galley right. Crawford 38/7; Sydenham 87; BMCRR 129. EF, green and brown patina. **\$265/£165**



56



57

**56. Anonymous.** Circa 217-214 BC. AR Half Quadrigatus (3.11 gm). Laureate janiform head / Jupiter, holding sceptre and thunderbolt, in quadriga left driven by Victory; ROMA in exergue. Crawford 28/4; Sydenham 67; RSC 25. Toned, good VF. Extremely rare denomination. **\$950/£600**

*Crawford notes that the quadrigatus coinage was produced on a far larger scale than any of the preceding didrachm issues. Additionally, the hoard evidence is quite strong as the coinage came to an end in a period of war, and was thus more likely to be hoarded and the hoards were more likely to be lost as a result of the violent death of their owners. Nevertheless, the half quadrigatus denomination remains extremely rare. Specimens in hoards studied by Crawford amount to a total of eleven coins, while the quadrigati in hoards are thirty-three times more prevalent with 366 recorded in hoards.*

**57. The Social War. Coinage of the Marsic Confederation.** 89 BC. AR Denarius (3.74 gm). Laureate head of Italia left, Oscan legend right / Helmeted soldier standing facing, head right, holding reversed spear and resting left foot on standard; recumbent bull to his right; Oscan letter N in exergue. Sydenham 627; BMCRR 27; Campana 138. Near EF, dark cabinet toning. Rare. **\$1450/£900**

*This allegorical reverse type commemorates the successes of the Confederate states over the Romans, and proves quite fascinating. The bull (or Sabellian ox; i.e., the Samnites) rests after its recent struggle, while the soldier is shown holding a reversed spear, a sign of victory, and resting his foot on a Roman standard.*



58



59

**58. Q. Titius.** 90 BC. AR Denarius (3.98 gm). Head of Mutinus Titinus right wearing winged diadem / Pegasus springing right; Q • TITI on tablet below. Crawford 341/1; Sydenham 691; Titia 1. Lightly toned, near EF. **\$265/£165**

**59. L. Julius Bursio.** 85 BC. AR Denarius (3.98 gm). Laureate and draped bust of Apollo Vejovis right; cornucopiae and trident behind / L • IVLI • BVRGIO in exergue, Victory in quadriga right; FA above. Crawford 352/1c; Sydenham 728c; P.H. de Ruyter, "The denarii of the Roman Republican moneyer Lucius Julius Bursio, a die analysis," NC (1996), pg. 131, dies 146/FAab; Julia 5b. Toned EF. **\$395/£265**

*As de Ruyter states in his recent study, "the corpus of denarii of Bursio runs to over 2300 pieces," and as one can imagine, the study of such a series would take considerable self-determination. The significance of the obverse symbols is not known.*



60



61

**60. M. Plaetorius Cestianus.** 69 BC. AR Denarius (3.68 gm). Female bust draped right; stylus behind / M • PLAETORI CEST • EX • S • C., jug and torch. Crawford 405/4b; Sydenham 803; M. Paz García-Bellido, "Punic Iconography on the Roman Denarii of M. Plaetorius Cestianus," ANS AJN 1 (1989), pl. 4, 13; Plaetoria 7. Good VF, scarce. **\$650/£400**

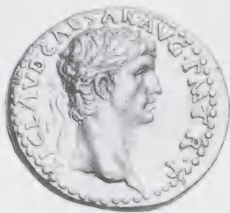
*García-Bellido finds in the different attributes of the female bust on the obverse indications of the African goddess Tanit in Roman guise as Dea Caelestis. The reverse of this particular coin further substantiates this theory. The jug and torch were essential elements of the cult of the Greek Mater Deorum, and Caelestis was the Carthaginian Mater Deorum, often referred to in African inscriptions as Dea Magna Virgo Caelestis.*

**61. C. Piso L.f. Frugi.** 61 BC. AR Denarius (3.84 gm). Filleted head of Apollo right; rake behind / C PISO LF F[RV], horseman galloping right, holding palm-branch; above, ••; below (off flan), •. Crawford 408/1a (dies 103/123); Sydenham 851; C. Hersh, "A Study of the coinage of the moneyer C. Calpurnius Piso L.f. Frugi," NC (1976), 416 (O312/R2136); Calpurnia 24. Near EF. **\$320/£200**

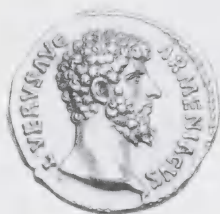
*Gaius Piso, the son-in-law of the Roman orator Cicero, commemorates the games to Apollo on his coinage, and his family's role in making the games a permanent part of the Roman calendar. It was his ancestor, Calpurnius Piso Frugi, who in 211 BC, petitioned the Senate to make the games to Apollo an annual event.*



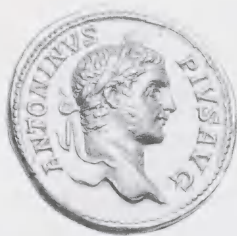
81



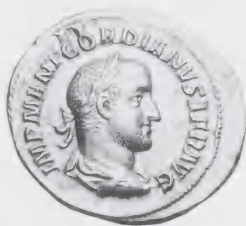
75



89



98



101



110



118



## ROMAN IMPERATORIAL



- 62. Pompey the Great.** 49 BC. AR Denarius (3.84 gm). Struck in a military mint moving with Pompey in Spain. CN • PISO • P[RO • Q], diademed head of Numa Pompilius right; NVMA on diadem / Prow right; MAGN above, PRO • COS below. Crawford 446/1; Sydenham 1032; RSC 4. Nice VF. \$795/£495

*This coin was minted under the authority of Cn. Calpurnius Piso, who served as proquaestor to the Pompeian party in Spain during the war between Caesar and Pompey. The head of Numa Pompilius records the claim of the Calpurnia gens to be descended from Calpus, the son of Numa, while the prow on the reverse refers to the naval victories of Pompey over the pirates in 67 BC.*

- 63. Pompey the Great. Struck by Sextus Pompey,** 42-40 BC. AR Denarius (3.68 gm). MAG • PIVS • IMP • ITER, head of Pompey the Great right, between capis and lituus / PRÆF above, [CL]AS • ET • ORÆ/[MARI]T • EX • S • C in two lines in exergue, Neptune standing left, foot on prow, holding aplustre; on either side are the brothers Anapias and Amphinomus with their parents on their shoulders. Crawford 511/3a; Sydenham 1344; RSC 17. Toned, good VF. \$1600/£1000

*This issue belongs to Sextus Pompey, and was struck after his defeat of Q. Salvidienus Rufus when he was acclaimed imperator for the second time.*

- 64. Cnaeus Pompey Junior, son of Pompey the Great.** 46-45 BC. AR Denarius (3.78 gm). Spanish mint. M • POBLICI • LEG • PRO [•] PR, helmeted head of Roma right / CN • MAG-NVS • IMP, Hispania standing right, holding shield and two spears, presenting palm to Cn. Pompey who is standing left on prow. Crawford 469/1d; Sydenham 1035; RSC 1 (Pompey the Great). Toned VF. \$595/£365

*Following the battle of Thapsus in the spring of 46 BC, Julius Caesar returned to Rome to celebrate a series of triumphs. That September, he set out for Spain in what would be his final campaign. Here the sons of Pompey the Great, Cnaeus and Sextus, had rallied the remains of the African forces to make one last stand against the victorious dictator. The forces met at Munda in March of 45 BC and the Pompeians were defeated, thus ending the first series of civil wars. Cnaeus was captured and executed, but Sextus escaped and survived to become a problem for the Second Triumvirate. This coin was issued by Marcus Poblucius, legatus pro praetore to Cnaeus, to pay the legions under his command in Spain.*



65



66



- 65. Julius Caesar.** 46-45 BC. Orichalcum As (13.55 gm). **C. Clovius, prefect.** Undetermined north Italian mint. CAESAR • DIC • TER, draped bust of Victory right / C • CLOVI PRAEF, Minerva standing left, holding trophy over right shoulder, and on left arm, shield decorated with Medusa; at her feet left, serpent. Crawford 476/1a; Sydenham 1025; RPC 601. VF, dark brown patina. **\$575/£360**

*The mint that issued the coinage under the prefect C. Clovius has not yet been identified with any certainty, although site finds in northern Italy and southern Switzerland would indicate a mint in or near Milan (Mediolanum). The coinage of C. Clovius is important numismatically as it saw the introduction of orichalcum coinage to the west.*

- 66. Mark Antony and Octavia.** 39 BC. AR Cistophoric Tetradrachm (12.01 gm). M ANTONIVS • IMP • COS • DESIG ITER ET TERT, head of Antony right, wearing diadem of ivy, within wreath / III • VIR • R • P • C •, head of Octavia right, on cista between two serpents. RPC 2201; Sydenham 1197; RSC 2. Toned, near EF, tiny edge scrape not affecting design. As nice as they come! **\$2400/£1500**

*These cistophoric tetradrachms were probably minted to commemorate the marriage of Antony and Octavia in 40 BC. Octavia was Antony's second wife and the sister of Octavian. In 32 BC, she was repudiated in favor of Antony's new mistress, the formidable Cleopatra.*



67



68



- 67. Mark Antony.** 32-31 BC. AR Legionary Denarius (3.42 gm). ANT AVG III VIR • R • P • C, galley to the right / LEG III, aquila between two legionary standards. Crawford 544/15; Sydenham 1217; RSC 28. EF. **\$480/£300**

*The massive issue of legionary denarii minted under Mark Antony was used to pay for military preparations for the coming war with Octavian. They tend to be of baser metal, leading some modern numismatists to classify them as "money of necessity."*

- 68. Octavian.** 27 BC-14 AD. AR Denarius (3.69 gm). Struck circa 29-27 BC. Bare head right / Temple with ballustrade inscribed IMP. CAESAR, with Victory on globe at apex and warriors at the angles. RIC I 266; BMCRE 631; BN 54; RSC 122. Good VF, banker's mark on obverse field. **\$475/£300**

*This coin type dedicates the new Curia, or Senate House, with two images of Victory, one of which was placed on the pediment of the building, and the other, a famous statue brought from Tarentum, within.*

## ROMAN IMPERIAL



69



70



**69. AUGUSTUS.** 27 BC-14 AD. AR Denarius (3.58 gm). **P. Carisius, legate.** Struck 25-22 BC. Emerita mint. IMP CAESAR AV[GVST], bare head left / P CARIS-IVS LEG PRO P R, gateway inscribed EMERITA. RIC I 10; BMCRE 292; BN 1037 (same dies); RSC 397a. EF, edge porosity. Rare. **\$795/£495**

*P. Carisius was the legate in Spain responsible for the subjugation of the Cantabri and Astures. Dio Cassius relates that Augustus dismissed many of the soldiers (emeriti) who had served their time, and assigned to them a town in Lusitania, which he named Augusta Emerita.*

**70. AUGUSTUS.** 27 BC-14 AD. AR Denarius (3.85 gm). Struck 18-17 BC. Colonia Patricia mint. S P Q [R • IMP • CAESARI AVG] • COS • XI • TR • POT • VI •, bare head right / [CIVIB • ET] SIGN • MILIT • A • PART • RECV-P-E-R •, Augustus in facing quadriga between two Parthians handing over a signis cohortis and an aquila, all on triumphal arch of three portals. RIC I 134a; BMCRE 428; BN 1232; RSC 84. Toned VF. **\$635/£400**

*This type refers to the erection of a triumphal arch in commemoration of the return of the captured standards by the Parthians. At the battle of Carrhae in 53 BC, the general Crassus made the imprudent decision to attack Parthia via Mesopotamia, where the flat land and foul heat left him at a disadvantage. As a result, the Roman army suffered one of its worst defeats, losing over 30,000 soldiers and several military standards. The return of the standards was a momentous occasion for the Romans, many of whom had lost ancestors in the battle, and its propagandistic value was shrewdly manipulated by Augustus.*



71



**71. AUGUSTUS.** 27 BC-14 AD. AR Denarius (3.58 gm). Struck 2 BC-14 AD. CAESAR AVGVSTVS DIVI F PATER PATRIAE, laureate head of Augustus right / AVGVSTI F COS DESIG PRINC IVVENT, C L CAESARES in exergue, Caius and Lucius Caesars standing facing, shield and spears between them; above, lituus and simpulum turned inwards; X between. RIC I 212; BMCRE 538; BN 1665; RSC 43d. Toned, near EF, wonderful strike and artistic workmanship. **\$575/£360**

*This type was struck to celebrate Gaius and Lucius Caesars, the sons of Marcus Agrippa, as heirs to the imperial throne. Gaius became Princeps Iuventutis in 5 BC and Lucius in 2 BC. They died in 4 AD and 2 AD respectively, paving the way ultimately for the elevation of Tiberius.*



72



73



**72. DIVVS AVGVSTVS.** Issued under Tiberius, 31-37 AD. Æ As (11.09 gm). DIVVS • AVGVSTVS • PATER •, radiate head left / PROVIDENT in exergue, S-C across field, altar. RIC I 81 (Tiberius); BMCRE 146 (Tiberius); BN 131 (Tiberius); Cohen 228 VF, green patina.

**\$695/£435**

*Tiberius commissioned construction of an altar to Augustus on the Palatine hill, and dedicated it to his stepfather's providence in arranging for the succession.*

**73. TIBERIUS.** 14-37 AD. AR Denarius (3.68 gm). TI CAESAR DIVI AVG F AVGVSTVS, laureate head right / PONTIF MAXIM, Livia, as Pax seated right holding olive branch and sceptre; legs of chair ornate, feet on footstool. RIC I 30; BMCRE 48; BN 33; RSC 16a. Toned EF.

**\$640/£400**

*The denarius of Tiberius with Pax reverse is commonly known as the 'Tribute Penny,' the coin to which Jesus referred while he was discussing paying taxes to the Romans and said "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Mark 12:17). Although there are two other reverse types on denarii of Tiberius, they were only issued during the first two years of his reign. The Pax reverse was employed throughout the remainder of Tiberius' reign, making it the more suitable candidate for the coin mentioned. The term 'penny' comes from the 1611 King James translation of the Bible, and was adopted since the penny was the standard coin of the time.*



74



**74. GAIUS CALIGULA.** 37-41 AD. Æ Sestertius (28.01 gm). Struck 37-38 AD. C • CAESAR • AVGVSTVS • GERMANICVS • P • M • TR • POT •, PIETAS in exergue, Pietas, veiled, seated left holding patera, left elbow resting on small facing statue / DIVO-AVG, S-C across field, Gaius sacrificing before hexastyle temple; one attendant leading bull to altar, the other holding a patera. RIC I 36; BMCRE 41; BN 51; Cohen 9. Good VF, brown patina. **\$2200/£1375**

*Amongst Tiberius' unfinished projects that Caligula completed was the Temple of Divus Augustus (Suet. Calig. 21), although Mattingly notes that he never dedicated the temple (see BMCRE pg. cxlvii, note 4).*





75 AV



76



77

75. **CLAUDIUS.** 41-54 AD. AV Aureus (7.68 gm). Struck 41-42 AD. Lugdunum mint. TI CLAVD • CAESAR • AVG • GERM T M TR • P, laureate head right / CONSTANTIAE AVGVSTI, Constantia seated left on curule chair, feet on stool, drawing drapery from shoulder with right hand. RIC I 2; BMCRE 1; BN 29 (same reverse die; same obverse die as BN 20); H-M. von Kaenel, *Münzprägung und Münzbildnis des Claudius*, *AMuGS IX* (1986), 77 (V58/R57); Cohen 4. Near EF, superb portrait style. **\$7950/£4950**

*In his catalogue of the collection in the Bibliothèque Nationale, J-B. Giard attributes this issue to the mint at Lugdunum.*

76. **NERO.** 54-68 AD. AR Denarius (3.40 gm). Struck circa 64-65 AD. NERO CAESAR AVGVSTVS, laureate head right / IVP PITER CVSTOS, Jupiter seated left on throne, holding thunderbolt and vertical sceptre. RIC I 53; BMCRE 74; BN 220; WCN 57; RSC 119. Nice VF.

**\$795/£495**

*The reverse legend stresses Jupiter's role as the guardian or protector of Nero and the Roman state. Apparently, the god protected neither Rome, which burned in 64, nor Nero, who was deposed three years later when the army rose in revolt.*

77. **GALBA.** 68-69 AD. AR Denarius (3.50 gm). IMP SER [GA]LBA AVG, bare head right / S P Q R/OB/CS in three lines within oak-wreath. RIC I 170; BMCRE 34; RSC 287. Good VF, light toning. Rare.

**\$795/£495**

*This reverse type refers to the recognition of Galba by the Roman Senate.*



78



79 AV

78. **DIVUS VESPASIAN.** Issued under Titus, 80-81 AD. AR Denarius (3.48 gm). DIVVS AVGVSTVS VESPASIANVS •, laureate head right / E-X across field, S C on round shield set on cippus, on which stands an urn, laurel-branch on either side. RIC II 62 (Titus); BMCRE 125 (Titus); RSC 149. EF.

**\$475/£300**

79. **TITUS, as Caesar.** 74 AD. AV Aureus (7.24 gm). T CAESAR IMP VESPASIAN, laureate head right / PONTIF TR POT, Fortuna standing left on cippus, holding rudder and cornucopiae. RIC II 177b (Vespasian); Cf. BMCRE 153, note (Vespasian); Cohen 166. EF.

**\$4750/£3000**

*Fortuna was worshipped extensively under the early empire, a period when Romans were often in doubt of divine providence. She is depicted here with her favorite attributes - the rudder, with which to steer the world, and the cornucopiae, from which she dispenses plenty. In the second century (or possibly earlier), a golden statuette of the goddess was kept in the emperor's bedchamber to watch over the imperial office.*



80



81



82



**80. TITUS.** 79-81 AD. AR Denarius (3.53 gm). Struck 80 AD. [I]MP TITVS CAESAR VESPASIAN AVG P M, laureate head left / TR P IX IMP XV COS VIII P P, wreath on curule chair. RIC II 25b; BMCRE 70; RSC 319. Near EF. **\$695/£435**

**81. JULIA TITI, daughter of Titus.** AR Denarius (3.28 gm). Struck 80-81 AD. IVLIA AVGVSTA TITI AVGVSTI F •, diademed and draped bust right, hair in queue down neck / VENVS AVGVST, Venus standing right, viewed half from behind, holding long transverse sceptre and Corinthian helmet, and leaning against column. RIC II 55b (Titus); BMCRE pg. 247 note (Titus); RSC 13. FDC, exceptional portrait and flan. **\$4800/£3000**

*It was rumored that Julia Titi, the daughter of the emperor Titus, had a long affair with her uncle Domitian. She reportedly died from an abortion which Domitian forced her to undergo.*

**82. DOMITIAN, as Caesar.** 76-80 AD. AR Denarius (3.13 gm). CAESAR AVG F • DOMITIANVS, laureate head right / COS IIII, Pegasus standing right. RIC II 238 (Vespasian); BMCRE 193 (Vespasian); RSC 47. EF. **\$575/£350**

*Pegasus was the offspring of Poseidon, the god of the sea, and the gorgon Medusa. When the hero Perseus beheaded Medusa, she was already pregnant with Pegasus and he sprang from her body along with his brother Chrysaor ("He of the Golden Sword"). Pegasus was given to the hero Bellerophon by Poseidon to aid in his conquests, most notably the slaying of the fearsome Chimaera.*



83



**83. HADRIAN.** 117-138 AD. AR Denarius (3.43 gm). Struck 120 AD. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG, laureate bust right, drapery on far shoulder, seen from the front / P M TR P COS III, Aeternitas standing facing, head left, holding the heads of Sol and Luna. RIC II 81; BMCRE 162; Hill 169; RSC 1114. Beautifully toned EF. **\$345/£230**

*The imperial idea of eternity, here personified holding the radiate head of Sol and the crescented head of Luna, expresses the idea of endless time. But what exactly is the theme here? Perhaps it signifies the aspiration for eternal stability under the Adoptive emperors, or perhaps the eternity of the Roman people. The meaning is rather ambiguous, and the type appears standardized with no significant propagandistic value.*



84



85 AV



**84. HADRIAN.** 117-138 AD. AR Denarius (3.27 gm). Struck 122 AD. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG, laureate and draped bust right / P M TR P COS III, galley left. RIC II 113 var.; BMCRE 247; Hill 215; RSC 1174b. Good VF. **\$275/£170**

*Galleys are depicted more on Hadrian's coinage than perhaps any other Roman emperor, with the possible exception of Allectus. The design is definitely appropriate, as Hadrian travelled more extensively than any other Roman emperor, visiting all areas of his vast empire from Britain in the North to Syria in the East. Many works of art reflecting his memories of these travels were designed for his Villa near Tivoli.*

**85. ANTONINUS PIUS.** 138-161 AD. AV Aureus (138-161 AD). Struck 143 AD. ANTONINVS AVG PIVS P P TR P COS III, laureate head right / LIBE-RA-LITAS around, AVG III in exergue, Antoninus seated left on curule chair on platform, extending right hand and attended by Liberalitas standing left, holding abacus and cornucopiae; before him standing right, a citizen holding out folds of toga to receive emperor's generosity. RIC III 75; BMCRE 218 and pl. 5, 13 (same dies); Hill 534; Cohen 485. Lustrous superb EF. **\$8000/£5000**

*Ex Bank Leu Auktion 22 (8-9 May, 1979), lot 263 (realized SF20,000).*

*This issue was struck for Antoninus's third largess, or congiarium, to the citizens of Rome in 143 AD., and was given during the celebrations of the betrothal of Marcus Aurelius and Faustina Junior. The congiarium was originally a gift of oil or wine, and comes from the word congius meaning a liquid measure of about three liters. It is not certain when the congiarium came to mean a monetary largess, but by the reign of Antoninus Pius, it had become common practice. The largess is sometimes portrayed on coins, occasionally with the legend 'Cong(iarium)' followed by a numerical designation for the number of times it had been given by a particular emperor, and Antoninus had the highest number recorded on coins - nine altogether.*



86



**86. ANTONINUS PIUS.** 138-161 AD. Æ Sestertius (27.56 gm). Struck 151-152 AD. IMP CAES T AEL HADR ANTO-NINVS AVG PIVS P P, laureate head right / TR POT XV COS IIII, S C in exergue, Antoninus, togate, seated left on curule chair, holding globe and roll, being crowned by Victory flying left behind him. RIC III 889; BMCRE 1887; Cohen 969. Choice EF, very attractive brown-green patina. Elegant style. One of if not the finest known sestertius of Antoninus Pius. **\$9600/£6000**

*Ex Numismatic Fine Arts XII (23-24 March 1983), lot 280.*

*The tranquility of the times is here depicted by the reverse type with Antoninus majestically seated on a curule chair holding within his powerful grasp the security of the world over which he rules.*



87



88

87. **MARCUS AURELIUS.** 161-180 AD. AR Denarius (3.63 gm). Struck 171-172 AD. M ANTONINVS AVG TR P XXVI, laureate head right / IMP VI COS III, Mars, in military dress, standing right, holding spear and resting left hand on shield. RIC III 261; BMCRE 555; W. Szaivert, *Die Münzprägung der Kaiser Marcus Aurelius, Lucius Verus und Commodus* (161/192), MIR 18, 231; RSC 290. Choice EF. **\$365/£230**

88. **MARCUS AURELIUS.** 161-180 AD. Æ Sestertius (32.38 gm). Struck 170-171 AD. M ANTONINVS AVG TR P XXV, laureate head right / IMP VI COS III, S-C low across field, Victory standing right, supporting shield inscribed VIC/GER in two lines atop palm. RIC III 1001; BMCRE 1388; W. Szaivert, *Die Münzprägung der Kaiser Marcus Aurelius, Lucius Verus und Commodus* (161/192), MIR 18, 228; Cohen 269. Good VF, green patina. **\$800/£500**

*The reign of Marcus Aurelius was a far cry from the peaceful prosperity of his predecessor, and sixteen years of his twenty year reign were engaged in fierce fighting on either the northern or eastern frontier. This coin commemorates his victories over the Quadi and Marcomanni, Germanic tribes from north of the middle Danube who had advanced into Italy as far as Aquileia in 170, and over which the Romans were beginning to gain the upper hand by the end of 171.*



89 AV

89. **LUCIUS VERUS.** 161-169 AD. AV Aureus (7.30 gm). Struck 163-164 AD. • L • VERVS AVG ARMENIACVS, bare head right / TR P IIII • IMP II COS II, Victory standing right, placing shield inscribed VIC/AVG in two lines on palm. RIC III 522 (Marcus Aurelius); BMCRE 294 (same dies); W. Szaivert, *Die Münzprägung der Kaiser Marcus Aurelius, Lucius Verus und Commodus* (161/192), MIR 18, 94; Cohen 248. Superb EF, very choice. **\$7200/£4500**

*Ex J. Pierpont Morgan Collection (Stack's, 14 September 1983), lot 86.*

*In 162, the Parthians invaded Armenia and the eastern frontier of the Roman Empire, and Marcus Aurelius sent Verus to deal with the situation. Under the command of Verus' able lieutenant, Statius Priscus, the legions recaptured Armenia and once again made it a Roman dependency. For this, Verus took the title "Armeniacus." Subsequently, the Roman legions penetrated far into Parthia itself and captured the Parthian capital, Ctesiphon. In addition to his previous title, Verus twice received the salutation as "Imperator" and was granted the title "Parthicus Maximus."*





90

91

90. **COMMODUS**. 180-192 AD. Æ Sestertius (22.12 gm). Struck 188-189 AD. M • COMMODVS ANT P FELIX AVG [B]RIT, laureate head right / [FORT FELI] P M TR P XIII • IMP VIII COS V P • P, Fortuna standing left, right foot on prow, holding caduceus and cornucopiae. RIC III 524 var. (double cornucopiae); BMCRE 622; W. Szaivert, *Die Münzprägung der Kaiser Marcus Aurelius, Lucius Verus und Commodus* (161/192), MIR 18, 771; Cohen 159 var. Good VF, dark green patina. **\$800/£500**

*Commodus was a sharp contrast to his respected father, Marcus Aurelius. In the early part of his reign, he did actually manage some good, notably ending the Danubian wars on highly favorable terms to Rome, but during the remainder of his reign, he increasingly became the megalomaniacal monster that is portrayed in the Historia Augusta. By 192, even those closest to him felt insecure, sufficiently so that he was assassinated on the night of December 31 at the instigation and intrigue of his favorite concubine, Marcia, along with the imperial chamberlain, Eclectus, and praetorian prefect, Quintus Aemilius Laetus. It is interesting to note that Gibbon felt the reign of Commodus the starting point for the *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, and stated "[that it] is the design of this,...from the death of Marcus Aurelius, to deduce the most important circumstances of its decline and fall; a revolution which will ever be remembered, and is still felt by the nations of this earth."*

91. **PERTINAX**. 193 AD. AR Denarius (3.39 gm). [IMP] CAES P HELV PERTIN [AVG], laureate head right / VOT DECE-N TR P COS II, Pertinax, veiled, standing left, sacrificing out of patera over altar, and holding roll. RIC IV 13a; BMCRE 24; RSC 56. Toned, good VF, nice portrait. **\$1600/£1000**



92

92. **PERTINAX**. 193 AD. Æ Sestertius (23.71 gm). IMP CAES • P HELV PERTINAX AVG, laureate head right / VOT DECEN TR P COS II, S-C across field, Pertinax, veiled, standing left, sacrificing out of patera over altar, and holding roll. RIC IV 24; BMCRE 44; A.M. Woodward, "The Coinage of Pertinax," NC (1957), pg. 93, 17 and pl. XII, 6 (same dies); cf. Cohen 58. Good VF, dark-green patina. Rare this nice. **\$6400/£4000**

*Pertinax had a remarkable and distinguished career. His father was a former slave who upon freedom became a successful wool merchant. With his wealth, he was able to have his son educated, and Pertinax became a teacher. In 161, he left his teaching position, opting instead for a military career and greater pay. He quickly distinguished himself and was rapidly promoted from commander of a cohort to military tribune, then to consul, and eventually to governor of several provinces, including Upper and Lower Moesia, Dacia, Syria and Africa. In 189, Commodus appointed him urban prefect of Rome, and from this position he was able to seize control of the Empire upon the death of Commodus on the last day of December, 192 AD. Unfortunately, Pertinax attempted to reform the government and military too quickly, and was assassinated by disgruntled praetorians on 28 March 193, after a reign of only 87 days.*



93



94



**93. CLODIUS ALBINUS, as Caesar.** 194 AD. AR Denarius (3.20 gm). D CLOD SEPT ALBIN CAES, bare head right / ROMAE AE-TERNAE, Roma seated left on round shield, holding pallasium and reversed spear. RIC IV 11b; BMCRE 45; Hill 109; RSC 61a. EF.

**\$650/£400**

**94. CLODIUS ALBINUS.** 195-197 AD. AR Denarius (2.85 gm). Lugdunum mint. IMP CAES D C[L]O SEP ALB AVG, laureate head right / FIDES LEGION • COS • II •, clasped hands holding legionary eagle. RIC IV 20b (same obverse die); BMCRE 284 (same obverse die); RSC 24. Superb EF, light toning, rare.

**\$1200/£800**

*The Governor of Britain, Decimus Clodius Albinus, allied himself with Septimius Severus and was given the title of Caesar following the assassination of Pertinax in 193 AD. This alliance afforded Septimius the time to deal with Pescennius Niger whom he defeated in 195, at which point Albinus was declared a public enemy. Albinus took the title of Augustus, but shortly thereafter in 197 he was defeated by Septimius at Lyon (Lugdunum). This coin belongs to the small series issued at Lugdunum after it was established as Albinus' mint and was producing coinage to pay for his military operations against Severus.*



95



96 AV



**95. PESCENNIUS NIGER.** 193-194 AD. AR Denarius (3.17 gm). Antioch mint. [IMP C]AES C PESC NIGER IVS AVG COS II, laureate head right / FEIICITAS (sic) TE[M]PORVM, vase-shaped basket of fruit with grapes hanging over each side and a stalk of grain between. RIC IV 17; BMCRE 293; cf. RSC 16a. Toned, good VF, light reverse scratches. Rare.

**\$1925/£1200**

*Dr. Buttrey, in his presidential address to a meeting of the Royal Numismatic Society, discusses the coinage of Pescennius Niger (see T.V. Buttrey, "The Coinage of Pescennius Niger," NC 1992, pp. iv-xxii), and notes that this particular reverse type is known from only seven dies.*

**96. SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS.** 193-211 AD. AV Aureus (7.12 gm). Struck 200 AD. SEVERVS AVG PART MAX, laureate head right, wearing aegis / PR-OFEC-T • AVG-G F-EL, Severus, in military dress with cape flowing out behind him, on horseback right, holding spear. RIC IV 165c; BMCRE pg. 193, note †; Hill 429; Cohen—. Choice EF, rare with aegis.

**\$9600/£6000**

*The aegis, a small cloak or shield made of a goat's skin and emblazoned with the head of Medusa, was Jupiter's storm-cloud. When battling enemies, he would shake the aegis causing it to thunder and lighten, striking fear into any who opposed him. The aegis eventually became a standing attribute of Jupiter's daughter Minerva, and in classical art she is usually portrayed wearing the aegis as a breast-plate. Beginning with Nero, the Roman emperors adopted the aegis essentially to associate themselves with Jupiter or when they claimed Minerva as their patron.*



97 AV



98

97. **CARACALLA**, 198-217 AD. AV Aureus (7.51 gm). Struck 209 AD. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG, laureate head right / PONTIF TR P XII COS III, Mars Pacator advancing left, holding branch and trophy. RIC IV 109a; BMCRE pg. 358, \* var.; Hill 1058 var.; Cohen—. Superb EF. Only the second known example of this rare variety. **\$12000/£7500**

*The obverse die lacks the typical slight drapery on the far shoulder that is normal for this rare type. The only other known example lacking the drapery appeared in a Hess auction in December 1933.*

98. **AQUILIA SEVERA**, second wife of Elagabalus. AR Denarius (3.15 gm). Struck circa 220 AD, or slightly later. IVLIA AQVILIA SEVERA AVG, draped bust right / CONCO-R-DIA, Concordia standing left, holding patera over lighted altar, and double cornucopiae; star in right field. RIC IV 226 (Elagabalus); BMCRE 184 (Elagabalus); RSC 2. Good VF. **\$480/£300**

*The employment of a reverse type expressing harmony is perhaps ironic considering Elagabalus' attention grabbing antics that seem almost intentionally brusque, especially towards the Roman populace. One must remember, he did forcibly take Aquilia from the sacred community of Vestal Virgins and made her his wife. This act, amongst a myriad of others, so infuriated the Romans that Elagabalus' own grandmother, Julia Maesa, devised a plan to eliminate Elagabalus and place his cousin Severus Alexander on the imperial throne.*



99

99. **ORBIANA**, wife of Severus Alexander. AR Denarius (3.34 gm). SALL BARBIA ORBIANA AVG, diademed and draped bust right / CONCORDI-A AVGG, Concordia seated left on throne, holding patera and double cornucopiae. RIC IV 319 (Severus Alexander); BMCRE 287 (Severus Alexander); RSC 1. Lightly toned EF. **\$795/£495**

*Severus Alexander and Orbianna were married around 225 or 226 AD. If there was any fondness in the relationship, it did not last for long. For unknown reasons (although jealousy is suspected), Alexander's mother, Julia Mamaea, compelled Alexander to banish his wife to Africa.*

100. **MAXIMUS**, Caesar. 236-238 AD. AR Denarius (3.09 gm). MAXIMVS CAES GERM, bare-headed and draped bust right / PRINC IVVENTVTIS, Maximus standing left, holding baton and transverse spear with point downwards; two standards behind. RIC IV 3; BMCRE 211; RSC 10. Attractively toned superb EF. **\$795/£495**

*The reverse type is common to coinage issued in the name of caesars throughout the third century. The prince is always depicted in military guise, which is of particular propagandistic value for garnering the support of the legions.*



101



102



**101. GORDIAN II.** 238 AD. AR Denarius (3.05 gm). IMP M ANT GORDIANVS AFR AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / VICTORIA AVGG, Victory advancing left, holding wreath and palm. RIC IV 2; BMCRE 28; RSC 12. Near EF. Rare. **\$3200/£2000**

*Other than the obvious differences in portraiture, the coinage of Gordian I and Gordian II can always be distinguished from that of Gordian III by the addition of AFR (Africanus) in the obverse legend. The distinguishing feature between Gordian I and Gordian II (since the legends are the same on the coinage of both emperors) is that the latter has a receding hair line and is always portrayed bald in front of his laurel wreath.*

**102. PAPIENUS.** 238 AD. AR Denarius (3.14 gm). IMP C M CLOD PVPIENVS AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / PAX PVBLICA, Pax enthroned left, holding branch and short transverse sceptre. RIC IV 4; BMCRE 46; RSC 22. EF. **\$595/£370**

*The short reign of Balbinus and Papienus was fraught with more than just the difficulties of contending with their formidable enemy, Maximinus I. The praetorians, having never fully come to terms with the new regime and disliking serving under emperors chosen by the Senate, eventually abducted the imperial colleagues, and after several hours of public humiliation and horrendous torture that neither man deserved, murdered them in the praetorian camp.*



103



104



**103. HERENNIUS ETRUSCUS, as Caesar.** 250-251 AD. Æ As (10.48 gm). Q HER ETR MES DECIVS NOB C, bare-headed and draped bust right / PIETAS AVGG, S-C across field, Mercury standing half left, holding purse and caduceus. RIC IV 167b (Trajan Decius); Hunter 15; Cohen 13. Good VF, brown patina. **\$595/£370**

*Herennius Etruscus was the eldest son of Trajan Decius, and died along with his father while fighting the Goths at the battle of Abrittus in 251.*

**104. DIVA MARINIANA, wife of Valerian I.** AR Antoninianus (3.62 gm). Struck 256-257 AD. DIVAE MARINIANAE, diademed, veiled and draped bust right, resting on crescent / CONSECRATIO, peacock standing facing, head left, tail in splendour. RIC V pt. 1, 3; Hunter 3; RSC 2. Good VF, better strike than normally encountered. **\$375/£235**

*History records nothing of Valerian's wife. All of the coins issued in her name are posthumous, so it would appear that she died before, or shortly into, Valerian's reign.*





105



106



**105. POSTUMUS.** 259-268 AD. Æ Double Sestertius (16.84 gm). Cologne mint. IMP C M CASS LAT POSTVMVS P F AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / VICT-OR-[IA AVG], Victory advancing left, holding wreath and palm; bound captive seated left before her. RIC V pt. 2, 169; Bastien 102c (this coin); Elmer 253. Good VF, chocolate brown patina.

**\$595/£370**

Postumus, the governor of Lower Germany, revolted from Gallienus in the autumn of 260 and created the Gallic empire, which was to survive as a separate state for fifteen years. The breakaway empire was initially composed of the three Gallic provinces, Lugdunensis, Aquitania and Narbonensis, plus Upper and Lower Germany. Eventually, Britain and Spain would join in the revolt.

Postumus was extremely popular, and enjoyed outstanding success in defending and restoring the Rhine frontier from Frankish and Alemannic incursions. However, by 268 his popularity had waned, and the governor of Upper Germany, Laelianus, revolted. Laelianus' support seems to have rapidly withered however, and within just a few months, Postumus had defeated the usurper. Postumus' downfall came when he was murdered by his soldiers for refusing to allow them to pillage the city of Moguntiacum (Mainz), the headquarters of Laelianus.

**106. POSTUMUS.** 259-268 AD. Æ Double Sestertius (20.95 gm). Cologne mint. IMP C M CASS LAT POSTVMVS P F AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / VIRT-[VS] AVG, S-C across field, Mars standing half-right, holding reversed spear and resting against shield set on ground. RIC V pt. 2, 179; Bastien 54; Elmer 273. Nice VF, brown and tan patina.

**\$395/£245**



107



**107. MACRIANUS.** 260-261 AD. Antoninianus (3.68 gm). Antioch mint. IMP C FVL MACRIANVS P F AVG, radiate and cuirassed bust right / ROMAE AETERNAE, Roma seated left on round shield, holding Victory and spear. RIC V pt. 2, 11; Hunter 5; RSC 11. Near EF, silvered.

**\$295/£185**

After Valerian's capture by the Sasanians in 260, several revolts broke out on the frontiers. In contrast to the weak revolts of Ingenius and Regalianus, that of the eastern usurpers Macrianus and his brother, Quietus, presented the official government of Gallienus with a serious challenge. The revolt was centralized in Syria with the usurpers establishing their capital at Antioch, and shortly afterwards most of Egypt and Asia Minor gave their support to the brothers. However, Gallienus was fortunate in having the capable general Aureolus to defeat and execute Macrianus as he advanced through the Balkans, while at the instigation of Gallienus, the ruler of Palmyra, Odenathus, suborned the citizens of Emesa to murder Quietus.



108. **TETRICUS I and TETRICUS II.** 270-273 AD. Æ Antoninianus (2.98 gm). IMP TETRI[CVS P F] AVG, radiate and cuirassed bust of Tetricus I and bare-headed and draped bust of Tetricus II jugate right / FORTVNA AV[G], Fortuna standing left, sacrificing out of patera over altar and holding cornucopiae. RIC V pt. 2,—; Elmer—; Cunetio—. Unpublished. VF, brown patina. *Unique!* **\$2400/£1500**

*For an insightful article on a similar jugate bust antoninianus of the Tetrici, see C.H.V. Sutherland, "An Unpublished Coin in the Name of Tetricus II," ANS MN XI (1964), pp. 151-8.*

109. **MAGNIA URBICA, wife of Carinus.** Antoninianus (4.01 gm). Struck 283 AD. Ticinum mint. MAGNIA URBICA AVG, diademed and draped bust right, resting on crescent / VENVS-S VIC-TRIX, Venus standing left, holding helmet and transverse sceptre, and resting against shield set on ground; SXXIT. RIC V pt. 2, 347; Karl Pink, "Magnia Urbica: Gattin des Carinus," NZ (1961), pg. 7, 1b; Cohen 15. EF, underlying silvering. **\$795/£495**



110. **JULIAN of PANNONIA.** 284-285 AD. Antoninianus (4.24 gm). Siscia mint. IMP C M AVR IVLIANVS P F AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust right / VICT-ORIA AVG, Victory standing left, holding wreath and palm; S A/XXI. RIC V pt. 2, 5; Hunter—; Cohen 8. Superb EF, underlying silver wash. Very rare. *No flan crack!!* **\$4800/£3000**

*Marcus Aurelius Julianus usurped power in Pannonia in 284 AD, and in early 285 he marched on Rome to encounter Carinus. He was intercepted in northern Italy, and in the ensuing battle he was defeated and killed. All of the coinage of Julianus is very rare. From the mint-mark S that appears on his coinage and on stylistic grounds, his mint appears to have been at Siscia.*

111. **MAXIMIANUS.** 286-305 AD. Æ Follis (9.32 gm). Struck circa 301-303 AD. Lugdunum mint. IMP MAXIMIANVS AVG, laureate and cuirassed bust left, holding sceptre over far shoulder / GENIO POP-VLI ROMANI, Genius standing left, holding patera over lighted altar, and cornucopiae; S/PLC. RIC VI 115b; Hunter 18. Nice VF. Rare **\$250/£140**



112



113



- 112. DOMITIUS DOMITIANUS.** 295-296 AD. Æ Folles (9.16 gm). Alexandria mint. IMP C LVCIVS DOMITIVS DOMITIANVS AVG, laureate head right / GENIO POPV-LI ROMANI, Genius standing left, holding patera and cornucopiae, eagle at feet to left; A/ALE. RIC VI 19; J. Lallemand, "Le monnayage de Domitius Domitianus," RBN 1951, pg. 100, 7; Hunter pg. 76, note 1. VF, surfaces slightly rough. Very rare. **\$1600/£1000**

*Domitius Domitianus usurped power in Egypt and led a rebellion against the tetrarchs circa 295 AD. To counteract the threat required the personal attention and leadership of Diocletian and, after several months, the revolt was suppressed.*

- 113. DIVUS ROMULUS, son of Maxentius.** Circa 309-312 AD. Æ Folles (7.15 gm). Ostia mint. DIVO ROMVLO N V BIS CONS, bare head right / AETERNAE MEMORIAE, eagle with wings spread standing right atop domed temple with right door ajar; MOSTS. RIC VI 34; Hunter 7. Good VF. **\$695/£435**

*Romulus was the son of Maxentius, and other than his coins, which are all posthumous, nothing is known of him. Further information regarding the mint at Ostia can be found in Fred C. Albertson, "Maxentian Hoards and the Mint at Ostia," ANS MN 30 (1985), pp. 119-141.*



114



115



116 AV



- 114. CONSTANTINE I.** 307-337 AD. Æ Folles (2.35 gm). Struck 324-325 AD. Antioch mint. Anepigraphic, laureate head right / CONSTAN/TINVS/AVG in three lines, wreath above; SMANTT/•. RIC VII 57; LRBC 1321. EF. **\$225/£140**

- 115. CONSTANTINE I.** 307-337 AD. Æ Folles (2.20 gm). Struck 324-325 AD. Antioch mint. Anepigraphic, laureate head right / CONSTAN/TINVS/AVG in three lines, wreath above; SMANTZ/•. RIC VII 57; LRBC 1321. EF. **\$225/£140**

- 116. CONSTANTINUS II.** 337-361 AD. AV Solidus (4.45 gm). Struck 340-351 AD. FL IVL CONSTAN-TIVS PERP AVG, rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust right / GLORIA REI-PVBLICAE, Roma and Constantinopolis enthroned, the former facing, the latter turned to the left, supporting between them a wreath inscribed VOT/XX/MVLT/XXX; Roma holds spear in left hand, and Constantinopolis holds sceptre in left hand and rests right foot on prow; SMNE. RIC VIII 32; COHEN 108. Near EF, small scratch behind head and pinprick on neck. **\$800/£500**



117



118 AV



- 117. VALENTINIAN I.** 364-375 AD. AR Light Miliarensis (4.36 gm). Struck 367-375 AD. Treveri mint. D N VALENTINI-ANVS P F AVG, pearl-diademed, draped and cuirased bust right / VIRTVS EXERCITVS, Valentinian standing facing, head left, holding standard and leaning against shield set on ground; TRPS•. RIC IX 26a.2; RSC 58b. Good VF, old cabinet toning. **\$1200/£750**

*First minted under Constantine I, the miliarensis was struck on two different weight standards averaging circa 5.41gm for the heavier miliarensis and circa 4.51 gm for the lighter miliarensis, which correspond to 1/60th and 1/72nd of the pound respectively. Unlike the other silver denominations of the period which experienced fluctuations in weight at different times, the standards of the miliarensis never changed.*

- 118. THEODOSIUS II.** 402-450 AD. AV Solidus (4.48 gm). Struck 442/3 AD. Constantinople mint. D N THEODOSI-VS • P • F • AVG, pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed three-quarter facing bust, holding spear over shoulder and shield with horseman motif / IMP • XXXXII • COS • XVII • P • P •, Constantinopolis enthroned left, holding globus cruciger and sceptre, resting right foot on prow; star in left field; COMOB. RIC X 293; DOCLR 414; MIRB 33. FDC. **\$950/£600**

*The exact significance of the very large issue of solidi dated to the 42nd regnal year of Theodosius II to which this coin belongs has stirred interest among scholars for many years. There is the unlikely explanation that Theodosius was stressing the length of his reign, as he was the first emperor in over four hundred years to have achieved the same length of rule as Augustus. The problem with this theory is that by the standards of the time, Augustus' reign was considered to have started with the death of Caesar in 44 BC, making his reign 56 years in length. The more likely explanation is that, by Byzantine reckoning, Christ was born in the 42nd year of Augustus' reign and Theodosius wanted to draw attention to this.*

## BYZANTINE



119 AV



- 119. HERACLIUS.** 610-641 AD. AV Solidus (4.32 gm). Struck 638-639 AD. Constantinople mint. Heraclius, Heraclius Constantine and Heraclonas all standing facing, each holding globus cruciger and wearing crown and chlamys / VICTORIA AVGV, cross potent on three steps; monogram to left, B to right; Θ/CONOB. DOC II 41; MIB 48; BN 62; SB 767. FDC **\$475/£300**





120 AV



121 AV



**120. CONSTANS II.** 641-668 AD. AV Solidus (4.51 gm). Struck 650-651 AD. Constantinople mint. d N CONSTAN TINUS P P AV, crowned facing bust, bearded, wearing globus cruciger / VICTORIA AVSU, cross on steps; S/CONOB. DOC II 16b; MIB 20; BN 29; SB 953. Choice EF. **\$350/£220**

**121. CONSTANS II.** 641-668 AD. AV Solidus (4.47 gm). Constantinople mint. 651-654 AD. [d] N CONSTAN TINUS P P AV, crowned facing bust, bearded, wearing chlamys and holding globus cruciger / VICTORIA AVSU, cross on steps; S/CONOB. DOC II 19f; MIB 23; BN 38; SB 956. Superb EF. **\$475/£300**

## WORLD



122



123



**122. CRUSADERS, Counts of Tripoli. Bohemond VII.** 1275-1287. AR Gros (4.27 gm). ✠ SEPTIMVS BOHEMVN[D]VS COMES, cross in tressure of twelve arcs / ✠ [C]IVITAS TRIPO-LIS SVRIE, castle with three towers, in tressure of twelve arcs. Metcalf 497; CCS 26. Good VF, light toning. **\$160/£100**

*The Tripolitan gros denomination is probably modelled on the French gros tournois, introduced by Louis IX in 1266. It was a substantial coinage; as Metcalf mentions, a die-study of the Bohemond VII gros by Miss S. Tyler-Smith indicates there were approximately one hundred obverse dies and sixty reverse dies employed in production.*

**123. CRUSADERS, Grandmasters of Rhodes. Robert de Juilly.** 1374-1377. AR Gigliato (3.86 gm). ✠ F • ROBERT[VS] : D . GVL[IA]CO : D . GAM, grandmaster kneeling left, before patriarchal cross on three steps; arms behind; Rhodian rose below cross / ✠ OSPITAL[IS] • I]OhIS : IRLnI : QT RODI, floreated cross. Metcalf 1213; Schlumberger pp. 251-2. VF, toned. **\$265/£165**

*As recently as 120 years ago the gigliati of Robert de Juilly were extremely rare. Schlumberger noted only ten known examples when he wrote his exacting corpus of the coinage of the Crusaders. Fortunately for the modern numismatist, several recent hoards (notably the hoard described in exemplary detail by E. Beckenbauer in the auction catalogue of the firm Gitta Kastner, Katalog 3, Munich, 22-23 May 1973, pp. 68-88) have been discovered, and the coin is now within the means of most collectors.*



124



125 AV



**124. DENMARK. Harold Bluetooth.** Circa 940-985 AD. AR Half Bracteate (0.40 gm). Imitation of a denier of Charlemagne. Struck at Dorestadt. Degenerate legends. G. Galster, "Vikingetids møntfund fra Bornholm," *NNÅ* (1977-8), 21.2 and pg. 171; Hauberg pl. I, 1. Toned EF.

\$795/£495

Trade connections with the Franks inspired the Norsemen to begin an independent coinage. One of the more important routes led through the Frisian town of Dorestadt, which was within Carolingian territory, but which during certain periods was enfeoffed to the Viking chiefs. Small silver deniers, the obverse of which read CARO/LVS in two lines, and on the reverse, the legend DOR/STAT, also in two lines, were minted at Dorestadt, and it was these Frankish deniers that served as the prototype for the first Scandinavian coinage. The obverse legend became corrupted, and on the reverse there usually only remained STAT or TAT in the town's name.

**125. FRANCE. Francis I.** 1515-1547. AV Écu d'Or (3.38 gm). Struck circa 1528. Grenoble mint. ✠ FRANCISCVS : DEI : GRA : FRACOR : REX • F •, arms of Dauphiné / ✠ • XPS : VINCIT : XPS : RENAT : XPS : INPERAT •, ornate cross with crowned F in two quadrants. Duplessy 783; Ciani 1083. Good VF.

\$965/£595

Francis I was the son of Louis XII's first cousin, Charles of Angoulême, and was crowned King of France at the age of twenty. His reign saw continual conflict with his neighbor the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, mostly as the result of Francis' attempts to gain territories in northern Italy.



126



127 AV



**126. FRANCE, Lorraine. Antoine.** 1535. AR Teston (9.49 gm). : ANTHON ° d ° G ° GOTHON ° Z ° BN ° dVX ., crowned bust left / . MONETA ° NANCEII ° CVSA, 1535 in exergue, crowned arms. Boudeau 1514; De Saulcy pg. 119 (unlisted date). Choice EF, lightly toned. Exceptional Renaissance Teston.

\$1200/£750

**127. LOMBARDS. Luitprand.** 712-744 AD. AV Tremissis (1.14 gm). D N LI-V PRAN [R], diademed and draped bust right; T before / SCS IIHAHIL, St. Michael standing left, holding shield and long cross. Cf. MEC 322; cf. Bernareggi 102; CNI XVIII pg. 461, 3ff. EF.

\$965/£595

During the sixth to eighth centuries, Lombardic control spread over most of Italy, with the notable exception of the cities of Rome and Naples. Unlike the Ostrogoths before them, the Lombards ('Longbeards') came as conquerors and replaced the existing Roman political infrastructure with their own feudal system. They were noted for being fierce and cruel, and papal documents of the period refer to them as 'most stinking' (foetidissimi) and 'most wicked' (nefandissimi). Liutprand was perhaps their greatest king, establishing control over the independent dukes of Benevento and Spoleto.



119 AV



131 AV



126



137



138



154



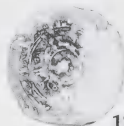
144



147



128 AV



129 AV



**128. ITALY, Amalfi. Roger II, of Sicily.** 1127-1130. AV Tari (0.87 gm). Imitative cufic legend around, R\* / Imitative cufic legend around, cross with pellet above and below. CNI XVIII pg. 6, 2. Good VF, very rare. \$795/£495

*Once a prosperous city sharing with Venice and Gaeta the Italian trade with the east (from which this coin type is indirectly derived), in 1131 Amalfi was reduced by Roger and rapidly declined in importance.*

**129. ITALY, Amalfi. Roger II, of Sicily.** 1127-1130. AV Tari (0.86 gm). Imitative cufic legend around, R• / Imitative cufic legend around, cross with pellet above. CNI XVIII pg. 6, 5. VF, very rare. \$695/£435



130



131 AV



**130. ITALY, Ancona. Republic.** 13th-15th Century. AR Grosso (2.38 gm). ✱\* DE ANCONA ✱, cross / ° • P P . S ° QVI\*•RIACVS ✱ °, St. Quiriacus standing facing, raising hand in benediction and holding crozier. CNI XIII pg.3, 20. Toned good VF. \$225/£140

*The town of Ancona, lying approximately halfway on a line from Rome to Bologna, was one of the cities of the Pentapolis under the exarchate of Ravenna, the other four being Fano, Pesaro, Senigallia, and Rimini. It eventually became a semi-independent republic under papal protection, during which period this coin was struck, until Gonzaga took possession for Clement VII in 1532.*

**131. ITALY, Beneventum. Romoald II.** 706-731 AD. AV Solidus (4.01 gm). D N IUSTINIVS P P, crowned and draped bust of Justinian II facing, holding globus cruciger / VIC-TORV AVGVSTV•, cross potent on three steps; R in left field; CONOB. MEC 1087 (same dies); CNI XVIII pg. 120, 2. Good VF. \$1425/£895

*This bust type of the emperor holding globus cruciger is an imitation of the early coinage of Justinian II (i.e., 685-circa 692), and is a type which was used by the Byzantine emperors throughout the seventh century. At Beneventum, the type was probably chosen because of its familiarity and was used continuously from the accession of Romoald II through the middle of Gottschalk's reign circa 740.*





132 AV



133 AV



**132. ITALY, Beneventum. Romoald II.** 706-731 AD. AV Solidus (4.01 gm). D N IVST-VV P P ETV, crowned and draped bust of Justinian II facing, holding globus cruciger / VICTOR VGVVIS•, cross potent on four steps; R in left field; CONOB. MEC 1087 var.; CNI XVIII pg. 124, 32. Good VF. **\$1425/£895**

**133. ITALY, Beneventum. Gregory.** 732-739 AD. AV Solidus (4.01 gm). D N L P P VGVVS, crowned and draped bust of Leo III facing, holding globus cruciger / VICTORV VGVVS•, cross potent on three steps; G in left field; CONOB. MEC 1089 variety; CNI XVIII pg. 131, 22. Good VF. **\$1425/£895**

*The solidi displaying the letter G in the left field of the reverse have generally been attributed to Gregory. However, the possibility does exist that these coins were minted under either of Gregory's successors, Gottschalk (731) or Gisulf II (742-751), although traditionally they have been assigned the coinage with the letters DG in the reverse fields.*



134 AV



135



**134. ITALY, Beneventum. Grimoald III.** 788-806. AV Tremissis (1.30 gm). Struck 792-806. GRIM- VALD, crowned and draped bust of Grimoald facing, holding globus cruciger / VITORA PRINCI, cross potent; G-R in fields, diamond of four pellets above; C•ONO•B. MEC 1099; CNI XVIII pg. 157, 31. Good VF. **\$795/£495**

*Grimoald was given as hostage to Charlemagne late in his father Arichis II's reign. With the death of his father, Grimoald was released after taking an oath of vassalage which included a promise to include Charlemagne's name in his charters and coins, and to abandon the Lombard practice of wearing a beard. He only adhered to these terms for a short period, and by 791 was in open revolt.*

**135. ITALY, Florence. Luigi di Antonio di Migliore Guidotti.** 2nd Semester, 1477. AR Grosso (2.21 gm). • • ❖ • FIOR-ENTIA • •, fleur de lis / • S • IOHAN-NES • B •, St. John standing right, holding cruciform sceptre; Guidotti arms surmounted by L to left. Bernocchi 3163; CNI XII pg. 170, 146. Toned, good VF, slight doubling on obverse. **\$195/£120**



136



137 AV



**136. ITALY, Florence. Lorenzo di Angelo di Bartolomeo Carducci.** 1st Semester, 1485. AR Grosso (2.31 gm). • • ♦ • FIOR-ENTIA • •, fleur de lis / • S • IOHAN-NES • B •, St. John standing right, holding cruciform sceptre; Carducci arms surmounted by L to left. Bernocchi 3327; CNI XII pg. 179, 212. Lightly toned near EF. **\$295/£185**

**137. SPAIN. Ferdinand and Isabella.** 1479-1504. AV Double Excelente (7.02 gm). Seville mint. ✱ FERNANDV[S • E]T : ELISABET . DEI GRATIA :: R, confronted crowned busts of Ferdinand and Isabella; star with four pellets above, S below / • SVB • VNBRA : AL[AR]VN TVARVM, crowned arms, Sicilian eagle behind. C&C 2814; Heiss I pl. 20, 65. EF. **\$3950/£2500**

*In 1474, Ferdinand and Isabella jointly succeeded to the throne of Castile and León, and five years later Ferdinand ascended the throne of the kingdom of Aragón. Thus were united the two main Spanish kingdoms, laying the foundations of Spain's future greatness. The "Catholic Kings," as Ferdinand and Isabella were commonly called, are best remembered for completing the reconquest of Spain from the Moors, for initiating the Inquisition, for sponsoring the voyages of Christopher Columbus, and for their ruthless expulsion of the Spanish Jews.*

## BRITISH



138 AV



139 AV



140



**138. CELTIC. Atrebatum.** Circa 55-45 BC. AV Fractional Stater (1.38 gm). Abstracted head of Apollo right, spike decorated with three pellet-in-ring motifs / Celticized horse right with collar around neck and strap over back; dahlia above, spoked wheel below. Van Arsdell 220-1; Seaby 51. EF. **\$650/£400**

**139. CELTIC. Atrebatum.** Circa 55-45 BC. AV Fractional Stater (1.36 gm). Abstracted head of Apollo right, spike decorated with three pellet-in-ring motifs / Celticized horse right with collar around neck and strap over back; dahlia above, cog wheel below. Van Arsdell 228-1; Seaby 51. EF. **\$650/£400**

**140. ARCHBISHOPS OF YORK. Eanbald II.** 796-circa 830. AR Sceaet (0.78 gm). Ethelward, moneyer. Struck circa 830-835. + EϑNBϑLDV, small cross pattée / + EDILVARD, small cross pattée. SCBI 4, 406 (same obverse die); North 194; Hildebrand 716 (Æ). VF, light overall porosity. **\$600/£375**



141



142



143



**141. KINGS OF WESSEX. Alfred.** 871-899. AR Penny (1.69 gm). Cuthberht, moneyer. Struck circa 880-889. London mint. ELFRED REX, small cross pattée / CVDB/ERHT in two lines; between, ∴ • ∴ SCBI 4, 673; North 636; Hildebrand 231. Toned, good VF.

**\$1400/£875**

**142. KINGS OF WESSEX. Alfred.** 871-899. AR Penny (1.48 gm). Buga, moneyer. Struck circa 880-889. Uncertain Mercian mint (Chester?). ELFRED REX, small cross pattée / BVGA above, MON below; between, ∴ • ∴ SCBI 7, 253; North 637; Hildebrand 219. Toned, good VF.

**\$1400/£875**

**143. ENGLAND. Aethelred II.** 978-1016. AR Penny (1.20 gm). Uncertain moneyer. Struck circa 997-1003. Stamford mint. ÆDELRED REX ANGL, draped bust left / ÆAINSNO ON STAN, long cross voided, each limb terminating in three crescents. North 774; Seaby 1151. EF.

**\$395/£250**



144



145



146



**144. ENGLAND. Cnut.** 1016-1035. AR Penny (0.87 gm). Mansige, moneyer. Struck circa 1017-1023. Sudbury mint. Æ CNVT REX ANGL, crowned bust left, within quatrefoil with pelleted cusps / Æ MANSII ON S•VBR •, long cross voided on quatrefoil, each limb terminating in three crescents, pellet at centre; small cross pattée in two quadrants. SCBI 15, 3732; North 783; Hildebrand 3372. Toned EF. Extremely rare and possibly the finest known. **POR**

**145. ENGLAND. William I.** 1066-1087. AR Penny (1.35 gm). Outhgrim, moneyer. Struck 1068-circa 1070. York mint. + PILLEMV REX, crowned bust facing / + OVDGRIM ON EOF, voided cross with annulet in center, pellet between two crescents at end of each limb, pile in each angle. North 842; Seaby 1251. Toned, good VF.

**\$650/£400**

**146. ENGLAND. Stephen.** 1135-1154. AR Penny (1.39 gm). Stanchil, moneyer. Struck circa 1150-1154. Norwich mint. Æ STIEFNE, crowned bust left, holding sceptre / Æ STANCHIL ON NO, cross fleury with pile surmounted by a trefoil of annulets in each angle. North 879; Seaby 1281. Toned good VF. Exceptional strike for issue.

**\$1600/£1000**



147



148



149



**147. ENGLAND. Henry II.** 1154-1189. AR Penny (1.29 gm). Class 1b. Reinier, moneyer. Struck circa 1180-1189. Winchester mint. hENRICVS • R-EX, crowned bust facing, holding cruciform sceptre / ✠ REINIER • ON • WINC, short cross voided; quatrefoil in each quadrant. North 963; Seaby 1344. Lightly toned EF. \$320/£200

**148. ENGLAND. Richard I.** 1189-1199. AR Penny. (1.45 gm). Class 4a. Richard, moneyer. Struck circa 1194-1199. London mint. hENRICVS • R-EX, crowned bust facing, holding cruciform sceptre / ✠ RICARD • ON • LVN, short cross voided; quatrefoil in each quadrant. North 968/1; Seaby 1348. Good VF. \$320/£200

**149. ENGLAND. John.** 1199-1216. AR Penny. (1.36 gm). Class 6a. Abel, moneyer. Struck 1204/5-circa 1209. London mint. hENRICVS R-Ex, crowned bust facing, holding cruciform sceptre / ✠ ABEL • ON • LVND, short cross voided; quatrefoil in each quadrant. North 971; Seaby 1352. Good VF. \$240/£150



150



151 AV



**150. ENGLAND. Edward I.** 1272-1307. AR Penny. (1.39 gm). Class 9b. Struck circa 1299-1300/1. London mint. EDW R ANGL DNS hYB, crowned bust facing, star on breast / ✠ CIVITAS LON-DON, long cross pattée; trefoil in each quadrant. North 1037/1; Seaby 1408. Toned, good VF. \$135/£85

**151. ENGLAND. Edward III.** 1327-1377. AV Noble (7.65 gm). Pre-Treaty Period, Fourth Coinage. Struck 1356-1361. E-DWARD ° DEI ° GRA ° REX ° ANGL' ° Z ° FRANC ° D ° hYB, Edward, wearing crown and armor, standing facing in ship, holding sword and shield; mm: cross / ✠ IhC ° AVTEM ° TRANSIENS ° P ° MEDIVM ° ILLVROM ° IBAT, floriated cross with lis at end of each limb and ornamented compartment containing the king's initial in the center; in each angle, a lion passant, guardant, with crown above; all within tressure of eight arches. North 1180; Seaby 1490. Good VF. \$1600/£1000





152



153 AV



**152. ENGLAND. Henry VI. 1422-1461. AR Groat. (3.64 gm).** Rosette-mascle issue. Struck 1427-1430. Calais mint. E HENRIC \_ DI \_ GRA \_ REX \_ ANGL \_ Z \_ FRANC, crowned bust facing within double tressure / : POSVI \_ DEVM : A-DIVTOR-E \_ MEVM, VIL-OLA : CALISIE \_ , long cross pattée; three pellets in each quadrant. North 1446; Seaby 1859. Near EF.

\$240/£150

**153. ENGLAND. Edward IV. First reign, 1461-1470. AV Ryal (7.50 gm).** Light Coinage. Struck 1464/5-1470. London mint. ED \ \ WARD \ DI \ GRA \ REX \ ANGL \ S \ FRAN \ \ DNS \ IB \ , Edward, wearing crown and armor, standing facing in ship, holding sword and shield; rose on side of ship and banner inscribed E at stern / IhD \ AVT \ TRANSIENS \ PER \ MEDIVM \ ILLVROM \ IBAT \ , floriated cross with lis at end of each limb and rose upon a radiate sun in the center; in each angle, a lion passant, guardant, with crown above; all within tressure of eight arches; mm: crown. North 1549; Seaby 1951. Good VF.

\$1600/£1000



154



155 AV



**154. ENGLAND. Edward IV. First reign, 1461-1470. AR Groat (3.79 gm).** Class II, Heavy Coinage. Struck 1461-1464/5. London mint. \_ EDWARD' • DI • GRA • REX • ANGL' • Z • FRANC, crowned bust facing, crescent on breast / \_ POSVI DEVM : A-DIVTOR-E' • MEVM, CIVI-TAS LON-DON, long cross pattée; three pellets in each quadrant. North 1531; Seaby 1972. Toned EF.

\$950/£600

**155. ENGLAND. Elizabeth I. 1558-1602. AV Pound (11.02 gm).** Fifth issue, struck 1594-95/6. ELIZABETH • D' . G' . ANG' . FRA' . ET • HI' . REGINA • , crowned bust left; mm: wool-pack / SCVTVM ° FIDEI ° PROTEGET ° EAM ° , crowned arms; E-R across field. SCBI 47 (Schneider Collection), 799; North 2008; Seaby 2534. Near EF.

\$4800/£3000



156

**156. ENGLAND. Elizabeth I.** 1558-1602. AR Crown (29.87 gm). Sixth issue, struck 1601. @ ELIZABETH : D' . G' . ANG' . FRA' . ET : HIBER' . REGINA : 1 : , crowned bust left, holding sceptre and orb / : 1 : POSVI : DEVM : AD-IVTORE-M : MEVM : , crowned arms over long cross fourchée. North 2012; F.R. Cooper, "Some Observations on the Dies of the Silver Crowns of Elizabeth I," *NCirc LXXIX* (1971), pp. 238-9, dies C/4; Seaby 2582. Toned, near EF, exceptionally clean surfaces. **\$3200/£2000**

*Mr. Cooper has noted in his article in NCirc five obverse dies and six reverse dies for the crowns dated 1601, although he adds that there were perhaps more.*



157

**157. ENGLAND. Memorial of Charles I.** 1649. AR 47mm Medal (34.07 gm). Medallist 'F.' Struck in Germany or Holland. CARL • I • V • G • G • KÖNIG VON ENGEL : SCHOTT : UND IRRRLAND., LEVDEN GOTT UND OBRIGKEIT, draped and armored bust three-quarters facing left / BEY DES PÖFELS MACHT UND STREIT • (By the mob's might and strife), seven-headed monster rampant right, severed head of king, sceptre and crown on ground. Eimer 163; MI I pg. 352, 210. Toned EF. **\$1200/£750**



158



159

**158. ENGLAND. George I.** 1717. Æ Halfpenny (9.59 gm). "Dump" issue. Seaby 3659. EF, underlying red. **\$475/£300**

**159. ENGLAND. William IV.** 1831. AR Shilling (5.60 gm). Second bust. Seaby 3835. Proof. **\$295/£185**



160



161



162



160. ENGLAND. William IV. 1831. Æ Halfpenny (9.34 gm). Seaby 3847. Proof.

\$160/£100

161. ENGLAND. Victoria. 1893. AR Shilling (5.64 gm). Old head. Seaby 3940. Proof.

\$160/£100

162. IRELAND. James II. October 1689. Æ Halfcrown (13.72 gm). "Gun Money." IACOBVS • II • DEI • GRATIA, laureate and draped bust left / • MAG • BR • FRA • ET • HIB • REX • 1689, crown over crossed sceptres; J-R across field, XXX above, Oct: below. Seaby 6579e. Good VF, light porosity.

\$175/£110

*The emergency coinages issued by James II in Ireland quickly became worthless, causing precious metal coinages to be hoarded and prices to escalate. The inclusion of the month of issue on all of the brass coins (except the crown) is worthy of note, as it stressed the temporary nature of the coinage, something James was always at pains to do. It is also interesting to note that James included the traditional title of king of France. He received considerable aid from the Catholic French, and it is perplexing that he would have risked causing offence by including this technical claim.*



163



164 AV



163. SCOTLAND. James III. 1460-1488. Æ "Kennedy" Penny (1.71 gm). Issued by (?) Bishop James Kennedy of St. Andrews. IACOBVS : DEI : GRA : REX, orb tilted downwards, rosette in center / @ CRVX : PELLIT : OIE : CRM :, latin cross within quatrefoil. Seaby 5311. VF.

\$350/£220

164. ANGLO-GALLIC. Henry VI. 1422-1461. AV Salut d'Or (3.49 gm). St. Lô mint. hENRICVS : DEI : GRA : FRANCORVM : Z : AGLIE : REX, the arms of France on left and England on right; behind, the Virgin Mary on left and Archangel Gabriel on right with AVE on scroll between / XPC H VINCIT H XPC H REGNAT H XPC H IMPERAT, Latin cross with h below, fleur de lis on left and leopard passant gardant standing left on right; all within tressure of ten arcs with fleurs de lis at angles. Elias 271 var.; Hewlett pg. 230, 1 var. Choice EF.

\$1450/£900

*Ex Garrett Collection, part II (Bank Leu/Numismatic Fine Arts, 16-18 October 1984), lot 801.*

## PAEONIA

As the Greeks of Greece proper regarded the Macedonian kings as upstart barbarians, the Macedonians themselves faced northern neighbors living on the wilder edges of civilization. The tribes known collectively as the Paenians were a continual threat to the borders of Macedon. After the death of Perdikkas III in combat with the Illyrians in 359 BC, his brother Philip II faced a serious invasion of his territory led by the powerful Paenian king Agis. If Agis himself had not died shortly thereafter, the nascent Macedonian empire might have been still-born amidst the tribal rivalries of northern Greece. As it was, Philip was able to deter Agis' successor Lykkeios with a combination of skillful maneuvering and generous bribes, giving himself the breathing room to prepare Macedon for the conquests ahead.

While the Paenian kings retained their autonomy until 286 BC, they were never again to be a serious threat to their more powerful neighbors. Although little is known of the inner workings of the Paenian state, a hint of their warlike nature can be gleaned from their tetradrachms, with references to heroes vanquishing foes: Lykkeios depicting Herakles strangling the Nemean lion and Patraos showing an armored horseman trampling a hapless warrior underfoot.

### Labours of Herakles

The Twelve Labours of Herakles were set for the hero as penance and atonement for his madness, in the grip of which he killed six of his own children as well as his brother's two children, mistaking them for his enemies. When Herakles recovered his sanity, he went to Delphi and was told to serve King Eurystheus for twelve years and to perform whatever labours Eurystheus might set for him. His reward for this service was to be immortality (by today's standards of morali-

ty, it seems contradictory to give Herakles a reward for performing penance!). He was hindered at all times by Hera when trying to complete these labours, but was aided by others in the Greek Pantheon.



**The First Labour: The Nemean Lion.** The first labour imposed on Herakles by Eurystheus was the conquest of the Nemean lion. This invulnerable beast had a pelt impervious to iron, bronze or stone. After trying various weapons to no avail, Herakles was able to strangle the lion, as depicted on this coin type. He then managed to skin it with its own claws. Thereafter, the lion's skin became his standard raiment.



**Kings of Paenonia. Lykkeios.** 356-335 BC. AR Tetradrachm. Laureate head of Zeus / Herakles strangling the Nemean lion, a bow and quiver on the ground behind him. GCV 1518; SNG ANS 1019. EF.  
Order as item #(SP 3001) \$795/£500

## ISTROS

### The Black Sea Coast "Heads or Tails"

The intriguing design of these coins catches the attention of beginning numismatists. The twinned heads always spark the question "what do they represent"? They have been thought to represent Castor and Pollux (although they lack the stars and caps that



are the attributes of the Dioskouroi), personifications of beginnings and endings, perhaps a god similar to the Roman god Janus (although we do not know of a similar god in northern Greece), or else the river Danube which in antiquity was thought to flow to both the Adriatic and the Black Sea, and was a vital trade route across the region, with Istros at its head. Any other speculations? In any case, many people do not notice an important variety in this series. Sometimes the left head is inverted, and sometimes the right. Any significance to this variation? More speculation is invited. We have both in small quantities.



**Thrace, Istros on the Black Sea.** Circa 4th Century BC. AR Drachm. Facing male heads, tête-bêche, i.e. one inverted / ISTRIH, sea-eagle on dolphin; monograms and letters in fields. GCV 1669; SNG BMC 228ff. VF or better.  
**Order as item # (SP 3002)      \$225/£140**

## ATHENS

### Birthplace of Democracy

The centuries long tradition of Athenian owl tetradrachms came to an end in 261 BC, when Athens capitulated to the Macedonian king Antigonos. It was only after 229 BC, when Roman interference began to loosen Macedon's control over the rest of Greece, that Athens once again struck limited quantities of silver. Sometime after 196 BC production began of the so-called "New Style" Athenian tetradrachms. The basic types were unchanged — the goddess Athena and her owl — but were engraved in the more florid hellenistic style. The helmet of Athena was adorned with tendrils, pegasi and horseheads, and the owl was set atop a Panathenaic amphora within an olive wreath. Contemporary records refer to the

coins as "stephanephoroi" or wreath bearers. The reverse is further cluttered with a multiplicity of symbols, the monograms or names of two annual magistrates (and later a third rotating magistrate), an annual symbol, a letter indicating the month of striking, and further letters that may indicate either a workshop in the mint or the source of the silver used for minting.

It would seem, with all this information to be gleaned from each coin, that precise dating of this series would be simple, but in fact there are still difficult problems. Production continued down to the last decades of the first century BC.



**ATTICA, Athens.** Circa 111/110 BC (according to Mørkholm). AR New Style Tetradrachm. Helmeted head of Athena / Owl standing right on amphora; symbol: Artemis with long torch to right, month letter on amphora, letters below, annual magistrates Phanokles and Apollonios, varying third magistrates; all within wreath. Often the name of the third, rotating magistrate is found re-engraved over that of his predecessor. Thompson 697ff; type of GCV 2555-2559. Good VF.

**Order as item # (SP 3003)      \$265/£165**

## PONTOS - MITHRADATES VI

### The Scourge of Rome

This king of Pontos became the most threatening roadblock in the way of Rome's conquest of the east, and one of the most ruthless men known to history. Only eleven when his father died, his mother Laodike pushed him aside to rule as regent in his stead. At the age of eighteen he overthrew

his mother, slew his mother's favorite, his younger brother, and married his sister in the manner of an eastern monarch.

Mithradates embarked on a career of conquest, bringing most of the lands around the Black Sea into his domain. His expansionist aims would inevitably bring him into conflict with Rome, and in preparation for the coming war he built up the largest army in Asia, unleashing them in 88 BC in what would be the First Mithradatic War. Defeating the Roman armies set against him, he sought to undermine the Roman power base by ordering the massacre of every Roman citizen in Asia. It is estimated up to 80,000 people perished. The Romans were not intimidated, and when Mithradates crossed over to Greece proper, as "Liberator", the Roman legions under Sulla smashed his army. Mithradates retreated to Pontos, from where he continued to skirmish with the Romans. Mithradates finally died in 63 BC, defeated by Pompey and facing a revolt by his own son Pharnakes. The elderly king tried to commit suicide by taking poison, but he had inured himself to its affects by years of small counterdoses, and finally had to be stabbed by one of his mercenaries.



**Mithradates VI.** 120-63 BC. Æ 24mm of Amisos. Head of Perseus, wearing griffin helmet / Pegasus pausing to drink from the Heliconian spring; monograms. GCV 3639. Nice VF or better.

Order as item #(SP 3004) \$95/£60



**Mithradates VI.** 120-63 BC. Æ 20mm of Amisos. Helmeted head of youthful Ares / Sword in scabbard, crescent and star symbol of the Pontic kings; monograms. GCV 3643. Nice VF or better.

Order as item #(SP 3005) \$80/£50

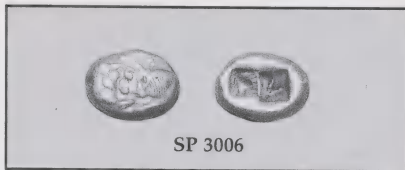
## THE KINGDOM OF LYDIA

### The Origin of Coinage

Coinage developed not in the great imperial centers of the ancient world, such as Egypt or Mesopotamia, or even Greece and Persia, but along the coastline and in the interior of Asia Minor.

According to Herodotus, the Kingdom of Lydia struck the first gold and silver coins of standard weight and fineness, stamped with a mark to indicate its place of origin. The name associated with this momentous development has been the Lydian king Croesus. Some scholars have suggested that the type, a lion facing a bull, represents the personal badge of Croesus — the lion signifies the Mermnad dynasty and the bull signifies the Achaemenids. This war-like image can be as obscure as the Greek oracle, who, when asked by Croesus what would be the result of a Lydian invasion of Persia, replied "the end of a great empire." Croesus did not stop to consider that this empire might be his own.

The Persians who conquered Lydia adopted the Lydian monetary system, and probably struck most of their darics and sigloi in Lydia for use in their empire. The Lydian types were continued by the Persians, their distinctive running king type not being developed until circa 500 BC. The coins offered below represent some of the earliest coins available, from the dawn of coinage history.



SP 3006

**Kings of Lydia. Time of Croesus.** Circa 561-546 BC. AR Sigios or Half-Stater (average of 5.33 gm). Confronted foreparts of lion and bull / Double incuse punch. GCV II 3420 (£450), 3423; Rosen 663. VF.

Order as item #(SP 3006) \$475/£300



SP 3007

**Persian Kings of Lydia. Darios I.** 510-486 BC. AR Siglos. Persian king or hero in kneeling-running stance drawing bow / Incuse punch. GCV II 3427 (£300); Carradice Type II, 12-13. VF. Rare early issue.

Order as item #(SP 3007) \$395/£245

## LYCIA

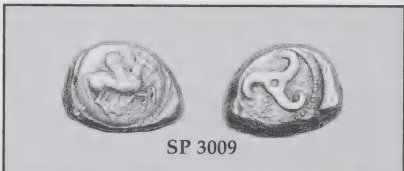
Lycia lies in one of the most inhospitable regions in Asia Minor. Rugged mountains crowd a narrow coast, but nonetheless several vital and prosperous cities grew up in the narrow valleys between them. Although forced to submit to the Persians in 545 BC, and greatly influenced by Greek traders, whose coin types they copied, the Lycians retained their own language and alphabet, and their dynasts ruled as autonomous kings. Much of their language and history remains unknown, and often the only information we have of the Lycians is that found on their coins. The Lycian symbol, the triskeles or tetraskeles, may be a solar symbol or may represent the union of Lycian cities.



SP 3008

**Lycia. Uncertain Dynast.** Circa 500-460 BC. AR Stater (9.87 gm). Flying Pegasus left on round shield / Triskeles. SNG von Aulock 4089. Good VF.

Order as item #(SP 3008) \$395/£245



SP 3009

**Lycia. Uncertain Dynast.** Circa 500-460 BC. AR Stater (9.85 gm). Flying Pegasus right on round shield; monogram below / Triskeles; monogram. SNG von Aulock 4090. Good VF.

Order as item #(SP 3009) \$395/£245

## SELEUKID KINGS OF SYRIA

The Seleukid Kingdom at its zenith, just after the death of Alexander the Great, comprised almost the whole of Alexander's conquests except Egypt. Eastern portions of the Kingdom were lost in the 3rd century BC when the Baktrian and Parthian Kingdoms achieved their independence. The Seleukid Kingdom's territory was gradually lost over the remaining years. In 190 BC its territory included no more than Syria and the immediate surrounding area. It maintained a precarious existence until 64 BC when it finally succumbed to Pompey the Great.

### Antiochos I, Soter - 280-261 BC

Antiochos succeeded his father of Seleukos I, founder of the Syrian dynasty. In 280 BC he succeeded his father. During his reign the vast empire, built by his father, substantially disintegrated. Antiochos renounced his desires for westward expansion deciding

instead to form a strong alliance with the Macedonian kingdom. During the First Syrian War (274-271 BC), Egypt took several of the coastal cities of Asia Minor. In 263 he subsequently lost territory in Pergamum.

In 278 BC, Antiochos introduced obverse and reverse types that would ultimately become the standard Seleukid design for the middle Hellenistic period - portrait of the reigning king / Apollo on omphalos.



SP 3010

**Antiochos I Soter.** 280-261 BC. AR Tetradrachm. Diademed head of Antiochos right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ, Apollo seated left on omphalos, holding arrow and resting left hand on bow. Cf. GCV II, 6866 (£275). Toned near VF. We have ten pieces, all with various monograms in the field, from an old collection.

**Order as item # (SP 3010) \$240/£150**

#### Antiochos IV - 175-164 BC

The third son of Antiochos III the Great, the future Antiochos IV was sent to Rome as a hostage at the young age of twelve. He remained in Rome for twelve years before the Senate released him in exchange for Demetrios, son of Seleukos IV. Antiochos moved to Athens for several years. While in Athens, he absorbed much of the culture and developed a fond admiration for the city. In 175 BC, with the help of Eumenes II of Pergamum, Antiochos seized the Syrian throne.

Within his realm, Antiochos attempted to restore urban life. He rebuilt temples, theatres and other civic monuments. He declared himself Theos Epiphanes, 'god

manifest,' as part of his effort to foster hellenism. At least one of the peoples under Seleukid suzerainty would not accede to his cultural and religious policies. Antiochos' seizure of the Temple treasury in Jerusalem in 169 BC, furthered by additional pillaging in 168/7 and finally the erection of a pagan altar within the Temple precincts (the "Abomination of Desolation") in 167 led to an upsurge of Jewish nationalism and the revolt of the Maccabees.

Unable to subdue the Maccabees, Antiochos continued on into Armenia and finally Persia where he died in 164.



SP 3011

**Antiochos IV Epiphanes.** 175-164 BC. AR Tetradrachm. Antioch mint. Radiate and diademed head right / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ, Zeus enthroned holding Nike and sceptre. Newell SMA 54ff. Good VF.

**Order as item # (SP 3011) \$395/£245**

#### Antiochos VII — 139-129 BC

When Demetrios I died in 150 BC, the disintegrating Seleukid empire entered its final phase. Demetrios was overthrown and murdered by the usurper Alexander I Balas (with the aid of Ptolemy VI of Egypt, who gave him his daughter Cleopatra Thea as wife). Demetrios' two sons, the future kings Demetrios II and Antiochos VII, were forced into exile. By 146, Demetrios II had gathered his supporters, and when Ptolemy VI of Egypt switched sides, Alexander was finished. Although Ptolemy died at the battle of Oenoparas, Alexander was assassinated, and Demetrios ended up with the kingdom and Cleopatra.



Demetrios had little chance to enjoy his victory, for in 144 a young son of Alexander, Antiochos VI Dionysos, was put forward as the true king by Tryphon, the actual power behind him. Demetrios was captured by Mithradates I of Parthia in 139 while trying to stabilize his eastern frontier before dealing with the usurpers, and the royal mantle (along with Cleopatra) was assumed by his younger brother Antiochos VII, who quickly defeated Tryphon.

By now the Parthians had taken most of the eastern provinces of the empire, and Palestine was an independent state under the Hasmonean kings. Antiochos VII forced Hyrcanus to acknowledge him as overlord (striking bronze coins in his name), and Judaea troops accompanied Antiochos eastward in 130 BC. The Parthians released Demetrios to divide the Seleukids, and the army of Antiochos VII was surrounded and destroyed.



SP 3012

**Antiochos VII Sidetes.** 139-129 BC. AR Tetradrachm. Diademed head / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ ΕΥΕΡΓΕΤΟΥ, Athena standing left, holding Nike and spear and shield; monograms in field. Cf. GCV II, 7092. Near EF. Order as item #(SP 3012) \$295/£185

## JUDAEA

Judaea was a province of the Persian Empire until 332 BC, when Alexander the Great made himself master of the area. Thereafter, the Jews came under the rule of the Ptolemies of Egypt during the 3rd century BC, and the Seleukids of Syria from 198 BC. Judaea achieved a measure of independence under the first rulers of the Hasmonean dynasty. Before the end of the second century,

the Jews had won full autonomy from their former Greek rulers.

Judaea still had a large population of Greeks and hellenized Jews, and Hasmonean coins continued to have bi-lingual legends, in Greek and Hebrew. The small bronze coins of Alexander Jannaeus remained abundant into the 1st century AD, and are often identified as the "widow's mites" of Mark 12:41-44. Herod the Great, founder of the Herodian Dynasty, came to power in Judaea in 37 BC as a nominee of the Romans.

As the Romans extended their influence in Judaea after the death of Herod in 4 BC and the banishment of his son Herod Archelaus in 6 AD, Judaea was placed under the Roman praefect of Syria who in turn appointed a Roman procurator to oversee Judaea. One of these procurators was Pontius Pilate. The misfortune of overseeing the trial and crucifixion of Christ has earned Pontius Pilate his infamous place in history.

A useful book for your library:

Hendin, David. **Guide to Biblical Coins**, 3rd Edition. Hardcover with dust jacket. 352 pages including 32 plates of photographs. 525 coins (with values), ancient weights, Biblical quotations, drawings, charts, etc. This is the most complete edition yet. For both the beginning and advanced collector. Informative and a must for collectors of biblical and related coinage.

Order as item #(GR 110)

\$60.00



SP 3013

**Judaea, Hasmonean Kings. Alexander Jannaeus (Yehonatan).** Æ Prutah. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ, anchor / יהונתן המלך - "Yehonatan the King" (the Hebrew legend often fragmentary or missing altogether), star with eight rays. Hendin 469. VF or better, selected for centering and completeness of types.

Order as item #(SP 3013)

\$24/£15

## Beginner's Special

A copy of Hendin & a Prutah of Alexander Jannaeus. Order both at the same time and save \$14.00.

Order as item #(SP 3014)

\$70/£45



SP 3015

Judaea. Roman Procurators. Pontius Pilate. 26-36 AD. Æ Prutah. Lituus, inscription around / Year in wreath. GCV II, 5623-5624. Near VF.

Order as item #(SP 3015)

\$60/£38

## THE PARTHIANS

The long reign of Vologases IV (147-191 AD) demonstrates the weakness in our knowledge of Persian history. When the Parthians and Romans are not fighting, we have almost no sources of history for them! For example, we know that Vologases III ruled part of the empire and Osroes I another, but we know little of their power sharing arrangement until Trajan arrived on the scene in 114 and pushed both of them aside to place Parthaspates on the throne. After Trajan died, his Parthian puppet was left to fend for himself and the affairs of the Parthian contenders fade from our view. Vologases IV appears in 147, but it is unclear whether he is the son of Vologases III or of Mithradates IV, another contender, and he only makes the history books when he invades Armenia in 162 and is beaten back by Roman armies under Lucius Verus. We get further glimpses of Parthian history when in 195 Vologases V backed the wrong contender in the Roman civil war and was defeated by Septimius Severus.



SP 3016

Vologases IV. 147-191 AD. AR Drachm. Ekbatana mint. Bust left, wearing tiara with diadem decorated with row of hooks over crest, long square cut beard / Archer seated left, corrupted Greek legend around, the top line replaced with an Aramaic legend, mint mark by feet. Sellwood 84; Shore 433ff. EF.

Order as item #(SP 3016)

\$32/£20

## SHAPUR I 241-272 AD

### The Roman Emperor made captive

Shapur I was the second king of the Sasanian dynasty that had overthrown the Parthians. He fought a series of successful campaigns against Rome in 241-4 and in the 250s, when he attacked Armenia, then Syria and Mesopotamia. The Roman emperor Valerian, elected by his troops in 253, spent most of his reign fighting to stem the Sasanian attacks on the eastern borders. In his last battle in 260 he was captured by Shapur. Never before had a Roman emperor been captured by a foreign enemy, and all Rome was aghast. The scene of Valerian's submission to Shapur was carved in a huge relief in the rock face at the old religious site of Naqsh-e Rostam, not far from Persepolis in southwest Persia. There, Shapur, in full regal dress and crown on horseback, is shown receiving the submission of a kneeling Valerian. The captive emperor was subjected to many personal humiliations at the Sasanian court, not least being forced to kneel and act as a footstool or mounting block for Shapur when he mounted his horse. The manner of Valerian's death is unknown.

These coins, silver drachms, have an obverse portrait of Shapur with a bunched hair neck-knot and wearing an ornate crown (these crowns are a feature of the Sasanian series).

The reverse shows a Zoroastrian fire altar flanked by two attendants. Most coins issued by the Sasanian kings were of good silver, but Shapur was one of the few to strike less pure coins. This is almost certainly due to their being struck from base silver Roman antoniniani, probably taken from the war chest of Valerian that Shapur captured with the emperor in 260.



**Shapur I.** 241-272 AD. AR Drachm. Crowned bust right / Fire altar flanked by two attendants. Sellwood 12ff. Each is well centered and well struck. VF or better.

Order as item #**(SP 3017)**

**\$95/£60**

## EGYPT

### The Ptolemaic Kingdom

After the death of Alexander III in 323 BC, his empire was divided amongst his generals. In Egypt, Cyprus and, from time-to-time, other lands of the Near East, the government came under the jurisdiction of the Ptolemies. This dynasty, named for its founder Ptolemy I, would last from 323BC until it fell to the Romans in 30BC, with the defeat of Cleopatra, the last Ptolemaic ruler of Egypt. In this three hundred year period we see extensive issues of gold, silver and bronze. Most of the silver depicted the portrait of Ptolemy I, while the prolific issues of bronze bear the head of Zeus, protector of the dynasty.

## Ptolemy II

282-246 BC

Ptolemy II, son of Bernice and Ptolemy I, succeeded his father in 282 BC. Ptolemy had two sides to his personality. The court poet, Theocritus (14.60-64), described him in laudatory terms: "He is the very best sort: a kind fellow, a lover of the arts, a true gallant, a pleasant companion.....gives freely to many and denies no suppliant." Hazard, in his recent work on Ptolemaic coinage adds that "the poet's statement was only at best a half-truth. Remote, cruel, cynical, suspicious and murderous, Ptolemy II had another side so dark that he faced several revolts and defections throughout his reign of thirty-six years."

In Ptolemy's court, poets compared their king to Zeus, the greatest of the Greek gods. Ptolemy took this praise seriously, and as Zeus had married his sister Hera, Ptolemy followed suite by marrying his sister Arsinoë. When she died in 268 BC, he set out to immortalize her with her own cult.

Ptolemy's silver tetradrachms continued the tradition of depicting the portrait of Ptolemy I on the obverse and the eagle holding a thunderbolt on the reverse. This tradition was to continue down to the fall of the empire in 30 BC. The issues of Ptolemy I and Ptolemy II blend together with a mélange of symbols and monograms on the reverse. Svoronos and Newell argued that the letters were in fact dates, but later numismatists Mørkholm and Davesne have effectively demonstrated that these homogenous issues are in fact the work of one engraver and his workshop. In 274/3 BC, Ptolemy initiated war with the Seleucids, and Davesne proposes that Ptolemy opened mints at Tyre and Sidon in 274 to produce coins to help finance his campaigns.

Our offering, from a recent acquisition, is of coins struck at Tyre during this period. For the sake of this catalogue we have adopted Svoronos' dating system, but are more inclined to accept later scholarship on this issue.



**EGYPT, Ptolemaic Kings of. Ptolemy II.** 282-246 BC. AR Tetradrachm. Tyre mint. Year H = 275/6 BC. Diademed head of Ptolemy I right, Δ at the end of diadem / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ around eagle on thunderbolt. In left field H over club. Svoronos 637. Good VF.

Order as item #(SP 3018)

\$395/£245

## Egyptian Bronze

### The "hole" examined

Over the years many theories have been advanced to explain the centering punches and concentric circles found on Ptolemaic bronzes. From R. A. Hazzard's book *Ptolemaic Coins, An Introduction for Collectors*, we provide one of the most widely accepted theories.

"The moneyer, who had first to prepare the flans or coin blanks, turned a block of wood on a lathe and rounded the sides to form a column about the same diameter as the prospective blanks; then after slanting the edge of one butt near the pin - let us call this the punch end - he removed the wood from the lathe and sanded the punch end smooth. Next he pushed the punch end, slightly oiled, into a platter of soft clay several times and connected the imprints with runners or channels to make a tree-like formation for the larger bronzes, but a chain like formation for the smaller coins. The workman, having placed a smooth slab of terracotta on top of the soft layer, now waited for the lower layer to harden, so that he could drill a vertical hole in the upper layer and connect this hole or gate to the internal cavity. He next fired the mould, and, pouring the liquid bronze into the gate, he cast the coin blanks or flans en chapelete. After the mould had cooled, he separated the two halves, and turning the

bottom layer over, he let the coin blanks and runners fall out in a single piece. He separated the flans from the runners for the larger coins. (The) flans were reheated and struck with dies aligned on a vertical axis. Once the flans were permitted to cool again, the workman put each on a lathe and trimmed the edges, so that the depressions on the obverse and reverse were caused by the pins of the lathe."



Enlarged detail showing the central punches and turn marks from the final lathe process on the coin.

We would suggest one refinement to the method of manufacture suggested by Hazzard. It actually appears that the centering mark and concentric circles — and so the trimming process — are done prior to the striking of the flan.

The bronze issues have proved to be one of the most difficult series in numismatics to correctly date. Scholars have been debating the issues for years. We have adopted the sequence used in SNG Copenhagen. If you are interested in Ptolemaic coins the following book is the best currently available on the market:

**SNG Copenhagen. Volume VIII.** Spain-Gaul, North Africa, Syrtica-Mauritania, Alexandria - Cyrenaica, Egypt - The Ptolemies. 131 pages, 115 plates. Hardbound.

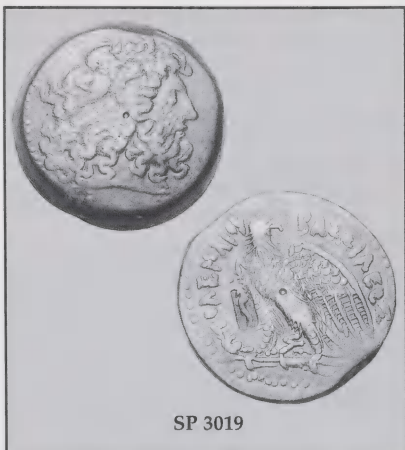
Order as item #(GR 162) \$99 / shipping.



## ROMAN PROVINCIAL

### The Mint at Antioch

Antioch had been the principal mint for the Seleukid kings, and after Pompey annexed Syria, the Romans took over the mint. The main silver denomination of Syria in the Roman period was the tetradrachm. In 60 AD, production of the shekel issued at Tyre ceased and the 'eagle' tetradrachms of Antioch subsequently became the trade coin of the region. Though silver issues exist for the early rulers, the first major output occurred during the reign of Nero. Burnett, et al., in *Roman Provincial Coins*, speculate that in 60 AD the shekels of Tyre and earlier tetradrachms of Antioch were recalled and reissued in a slightly debased format, similar to the recoinage Nero had ordered at Rome.



SP 3019

**EGYPT, Ptolemaic Kings of. Ptolemy IV.** 221-205 BC. Æ 36mm. Alexandria mint. Head of Zeus Ammon right with diadem and floral ornament / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ around eagle standing left on thunderbolt, head reverted, wings open, in left field cornucopiae countermark. SNG Copenhagen 207 (see 215 for similar countermark). Good VF, nice brown surfaces.

Order as item # (SP 3019) \$160/£100



SP 3020

**EGYPT, Ptolemaic Kings of. Ptolemy VI.** 180-145 BC. Æ 30mm. Alexandria mint. Head of Zeus Ammon right with diadem and floral ornament / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ around two eagles standing left on thunderbolt, cornucopiae before. SNG Copenhagen 308. VF, brown surfaces.

Order as item # (SP 3020) \$95/£60



SP 3021

**SYRIA, Antioch. Nero.** 54-68 AD. AR Tetradrachm. Laureate bust right, wearing aegis / Eagle standing left on thunderbolt, palm branch before, various dates. Sear GIC, 617ff. VF.

Order as item # (SP 3021) \$160/£100



SP 3022

**SYRIA, Antioch. Galba.** 68-69 AD. AR Tetradrachm. Bare head right / Eagle standing left on laurel branch. Sear GIC, 680ff. Near VF. Rare.

Order as item # (SP 3022) \$240/£150

## ROMAN IMPERIAL

### VESPASIAN 69-79 AD

*"Money doesn't smell"*



SP 3023

**SYRIA, Antioch. Trajan. 98-117 AD. AR Tetradrachm.** Laureate head of Trajan right, supported by eagle standing right, club behind / City goddess seated right on rock, holding ears of corn, river-god swimming at her feet, various dates. Sear GIC 1089. Toned VF. *This and the type below have at times been attributed to the mint of Tyre as well as that of Antioch.*

**Order as item # (SP 3023)**

**\$135/£85**



SP 3024

**SYRIA, Antioch. Trajan. 98-117 AD. AR Tetradrachm.** Laureate head of Trajan right, supported by eagle standing right, club behind / Laureate bust of Melqart right, lion's skin knotted at neck, various dates. Sear, GIC 1088. Toned VF. *This and the type above have at times been attributed to the mint of Tyre as well as that of Antioch.*

**Order as item # (SP 3024)**

**\$160/£100**



SP 3025

**SYRIA, Antioch. Hadrian. 117-138 AD, AR Tetradrachm.** Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust right / Eagle standing facing, wings open. Sear, GIC 1237. VF. Rare.

**Order as item # (SP 3025)**

**\$225/£140**

Vespasian was the first emperor to successfully take Rome by force of arms. Although he depended on his armies to keep him in power, Vespasian did not pursue a career of conquest, instead emphasizing the peace he brought to the empire after foreign wars and civil discord. He kept a tight rein on the army while allowing the Senate at least a semblance of authority. A new building program began to change the face of Rome, the most famous example being the Flavian Amphitheater, known later as the Colosseum. He also took pains to enforce the collection of taxes, to some annoyance. When his son Titus rebuked him for concerning himself with the fees from the "public conveniences" in Rome, he handed Titus some coins and proclaimed, "Money doesn't smell".

When Vespasian died in 79 AD, he was declared a god and the memorial coinage in his name was the most extensive since Augustus. Of the brief reign of his son Titus, the historian Dio Cassius remarked, "If he had lived for a long time, it might have been seen that he owed his fame to good fortune rather than to merit". Dio was thinking of the end result of his brother Domitian's reign, riven with paranoia and treason trials and ending with the assassination of the emperor and the end of the dynasty.



SP 3026

**Vespasian. 69-79 AD. AR Denarius. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG (or similar), laureate head / Various reverses. Good VF.**  
**Order as item # (SP 3026)** **\$160/£100**



SP 3027

**Domitian.** 81-96 AD. AR Denarius. Laureate head right / Minerva in various poses. RCV 894ff. Fine to VF.

Order as item #(SP 3027)

\$60/£38

## THE ANTONINES

### The Silver Age of Rome

The Roman Empire never devised a satisfactory process of succession to the throne. Although several dynasties held power for varying periods (the Julio-Claudians and the Severans, for example), there was never a well defined order of dynastic succession. This state of affairs often led to vicious internecine fighting and plotting, abetted by self-interested political factions and the military.

The most successful resolution to this problem was initiated by the emperor Nerva, who to forestall problems with the army, declared the popular general Trajan his successor and adopted son. The following emperors continued this tradition of declaring a successor (sometimes as a co-emperor) and formally adopting him as heir to the throne. Trajan adopted Hadrian, and Hadrian adopted Antoninus Pius as his heir in 138 after the premature death of Aelius.

Little happened during Pius' reign owing to the tranquility and prosperity which the Roman world enjoyed under his patient, judicious and impartial rule. His "son", Marcus Aurelius, has often been cited as being the closest to Plato's ideal of a "philosopher king", but his reign was wracked by continual conflict on the borders of the empire, forcing him to devote most of his efforts to holding back the barbarians.

Ironically, the worst "barbarian" Rome had

to face was Aurelius' son Commodus. The adoptive system functioned smoothly as long as none of the emperors had a natural son, but was broken when Aurelius named his son Commodus as Caesar. This megalomaniac would overturn everything the Antonines strove to achieve. The age of the Antonines was viewed by later Romans as the Silver Age, the last era of peace before the slow decline of the Empire set in. We can offer a variety of silver denarii of the Adoptive emperors and their relatives.



SP 3028

**Trajan.** 98-117 AD. AR Denarius. Laureate bust right / Various reverses. RCV 975ff. VF.  
Order as item #(SP 3028)

\$60/£38



SP 3029

**Hadrian.** 117-138 AD. AR Denarius. Laureate or bare-headed bust right / Various reverses. RCV 1076ff. VF.

Order as item #(SP 3029)

\$60/£38



SP 3030

**Antoninus Pius.** 138-161 AD. AR Denarius. Laureate bust right / Various reverses. RCV 1229ff. VF.

Order as item #(SP 3030)

\$60/£38



SP 3031

**Diva Faustina Sr., wife of Antoninus Pius.** Died 141 AD. AR Denarius. Draped bust right / Various reverses. RCV 1347ff. VF.  
**Order as item #(SP 3031) \$60/£38**



SP 3032

**Faustina Jr., daughter of Antoninus, wife of Marcus Aurelius.** Died 175 AD. AR Denarius. Draped bust right / Various reverses. RCV 1480ff. VF.  
**Order as item #(SP 3032) \$60/£38**

## CARACALLA & GETA

198-217 AD & 198-209 AD

Caracalla was the elder son of Septimius and was raised to the rank of Augustus in 198 AD. After Septimius' death, Caracalla was left as joint Augustus with his younger brother Geta. Caracalla was not given to joint rule and he had his brother Geta, as well as numerous supporters of Geta, murdered. His reign was marked by extravagance and cruelty, and he was finally murdered by the praetorian praefect Macrinus.



SP 3033

**Caracalla.** 198-217 AD. AR Denarius. Laureate head right / Various reverses. RCV 1915ff. Nice VF.  
**Order as item #(SP 3033) \$45/£28**

Although sworn by their dying father to remain united, the two brothers Caracalla and Geta were not destined to rule the empire together. Caracalla proved insanely jealous of his popular younger brother, and Geta outlived his father only a year before being brutally murdered and his supporters massacred. The coins of Geta, like his brother, show a clear age progression from toddler to young man. The following denarii have been selected for choice portraits.



SP 3034

**Geta, as Caesar.** 198-209 AD. AR Denarius. Draped bust of Geta / Various reverse types. RCV 2010ff. Good VF.  
**Order as item #(SP 3034) \$45/£28**

## ELAGABALUS

218-222 AD

M. Aurelius Antoninus was the son of Julia Soaemias and Sextus Varius Marcellus. In his boyhood he was appointed priest of the Sun-God Elagabalus. It is by this later name that he became known. In 218 AD the troops stationed in Emesa declared him Emperor and open rebellion against Macrinus spread. After the defeat of Macrinus, he was recognized Emperor by the Senate. His reign was not a happy one. His religious fanaticism, penchant for cruelty, bloodshed and excess of every description led to his murder on March 6, 222 AD. His body was dragged through the streets of Rome and disposed of in the Tiber.





SP 3035

**Elagabalus.** 218-222 AD. AR Denarius. Laureate bust right / Various reverse types. RCV 2091ff. Toned VF. Many with collector's numbers in india ink on the reverse.

Order as item # (SP 3035)

\$45/£28

## GORDIAN III

238-244 AD

Gordian, the nephew of Gordian II, was raised to the rank of Caesar by Balbinus and Pupienus to placate supporters of the Gordiani. He became Augustus after the Praetorian guards murdered the senatorial co-emperors. As befitting an emperor promoted by the army, most of Gordian's reign was occupied with military operations in Africa, Moesia and especially Persia. Although the campaigns were overall quite successful, and the Sasanian king Shapur I was put to flight, the legions chafed at being led by a youth (Gordian was only 18 when he died) and he fell to a conspiracy of his officers. Having been elevated to the rank of Augustus by the Praetorian guards, it was by the hand of the Praetorian Praefect, Julius Philippus, that he was murdered while on campaign in Mesopotamia.

In 214 AD a new denomination of coin was introduced to supplement the denarius. This new silver coin, called the antoninianus after Marcus Aurelius Antoninus (Caracalla), weighed one and a half times the denarius weight but was valued at two denarii. It is easy to distinguish from the denarius. The emperor is shown with a radiate crown instead of a laurel wreath. By the time of Gordian III it had largely replaced the denarius as the coin of the realm. Inflation in the third century was as great a problem as in the twentieth.



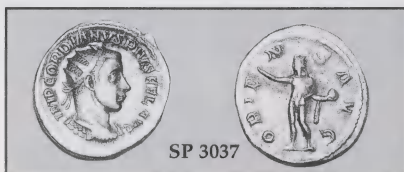
SP 3036

**Gordian III.** 238-244 AD. AR Antoninianus. Rome mint. Radiate bust / Various reverses. RCV 2427ff. All are choice VF, some maybe a little better.

Order as item # (SP 3036)

\$32/£20

From a recent group of Antoniniani, we pulled a small number of Antioch mint pieces. These pieces make an interesting stylistic comparison.



SP 3037

**Gordian III.** 238-244 AD. AR Antoninianus. Antioch mint. Radiate bust / Various reverses. RCV 2427ff. VF, some a little better.

Order as item # (SP 3037)

\$32/£20

**Scarce Denarii of Gordian III in Superb Condition.**



SP 3038

**Gordian III.** 238-244 AD. AR Denarius. Laureate head right / Various reverses. RCV 2469ff. Superb EF.

Order as item # (SP 3038)

\$95/£60

## TRAJAN DECIUS

249-251 AD

Decius attained senatorial rank early in his career and was governor of Lower Moesia from 234-238 AD. Following the unsuccessful

ful rebellion of Pacatian in Upper Moesia, Philip sent Decius to restore order. The rebellious troops forced Decius to take the purple and lead them against Rome. (Decius would not be the only usurper to claim that he was forced into rebellion against his will.) At the battle of Verona in 249 AD, Philip and his son were slain and Decius was left undisputed master of the Empire.

His reign is perhaps best known for his rigorous persecution of the Christians, under which Pope Fabian and the patriarchs of Antioch and Jerusalem perished. Decius himself died on the Danubian frontier in 251, when a marauding band of Goths, trapped by the Romans, were refused surrender and chose to fight to the death. Their suicidal charge overwhelmed the Romans, and Decius and his son Herennius Etruscus were both killed in the fighting.

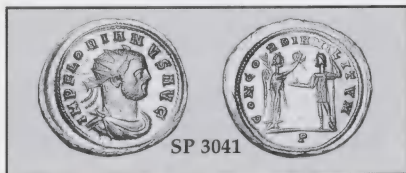


**Trajan Decius.** 249-251 AD. AR Antoninianus. Radiate bust right / Various reverses. RCV 2690ff. Near EF.  
Order as item #(SP 3039) \$45/£28

His brother Florian, having few supporters among either the army or the Senate, would survive him by only a few months, being murdered by his own officers who preferred the experienced general Probus. The joint ten month reign of Tacitus and Florian is notable for being the last time the Roman Senate would have significant input in the selection of the emperor. From this point onward the empire would essentially be ruled as a military dictatorship.



**Tacitus.** 275-276 AD. Antoninianus. Radiate bust / Various reverse types. RCV 3300ff. EF.  
Order as item #(SP 3040) \$95/£60



**Florian.** 276 AD. Antoninianus. Radiate bust / Various reverse types. RCV 3325ff. Near EF. Scarce.  
Order as item #(SP 3041) \$150/£95

## THE IMPERIAL BROTHERS TACITUS AND FLORIAN

After the assassination of Aurelian, there was a six month interregnum, while the army chose to let the Senate elect the next emperor. Their nominee was Tacitus, an elderly senator when he came to the throne, 75 years old, according to some sources. He claimed descent from the historian Tacitus, but this prestigious family tree seems to have been invented for the occasion of his elevation. Despite his age, Tacitus and his half-brother Florian immediately took to the field to repel attacks from Germanic tribes. The invasion was put down, but the strain led to the death of the aged emperor.

## PROBUS 276-282 AD

One of the leading generals in the Roman army, Probus was declared emperor by his troops after the death of Tacitus. His reign was notable for its military successes as well as his success in restoring economic prosperity to the Empire. History gives Probus credit with laying the foundations for many of Europe's great vineyards. Unfortunately, he was murdered by a band of mutinous soldiers who were enraged at having been employed on public works instead of military duties.

The worship of the sun god Sol took on greater importance in the third century, surpassing the veneration of the other gods. Sol had a large number of followers in the army, and as the army's influence over the empire increased, Sol appeared more often on the coins. For a while it even appeared that Sol worship would be a serious competitor with the rising Christian sect. These antoniniani of Probus, carefully selected from a recent purchase, show Sol in his quadriga rising over the heavens.



**Probus.** 276-282 AD. Antoninianus. Cyzicus mint. Radiate bust left, draped in consular robes, holding eagle-tipped sceptre/ Sol, head left, holding whip, in facing quadriga; mintmark CM/XXI, officina letter P, S, T, IV, Q or not present. See RCV 3371; RIC V pt.2, 911. EF.

Order as item #(SP 3042) \$65/£40

Lot of three different officina marks from Cyzicus. All EF.

Order as item #(SP 3043) \$160/£100

## CONSTANTINE I, THE GREAT 307-337 AD

### The First Christian Emperor

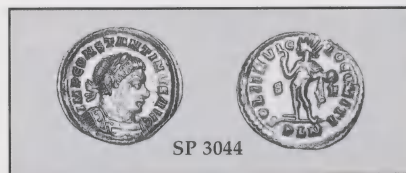
Constantine I was the son of Constantius I and Helena. When Constantius was raised to the rank of Caesar in 293 AD, his son joined the court of Diocletian. He was a promising young officer. In 307 AD he married Fausta, the daughter of Maximianus, and was raised to the rank of Augustus. During the next six years he consolidated his power, finally becoming sole Augustus in 324 AD after defeating Licinius at the Milvian bridge.

Constantine found that Rome did not play a central part in his ideas for the organization

of the Empire. After stays at Trier and several other mint cities in the west and in his native Balkans, he decided that the new center for the Roman Empire should be the ancient city of Byzantium. There he founded between 326 and 330 the city of Constantinopolis (modern Istanbul), which as the Eastern Roman or Byzantine capital continued to dominate the area until its fall to the Turks in 1453.

Constantine fostered a second and even more important revolution. He permitted and encouraged conversion from paganism to Christianity. In 311 AD, along with Galerius and Licinius, he issued the Edict of Serdica which legalized Christianity.

Constantine was a man of deep but impulsive emotions. He was extravagant, capricious and ruthless. His ambition and energy were unbounded. He was a general of the highest order. His two great decisions in life—to found Constantinople and to convert the Roman policy on Christianity—reverberated throughout the centuries. His reign was one of supreme importance to the future of the empire, to the church and to the course of Western civilization.



**Constantine I, the Great.** 307-337 AD. Æ Follis. Various mints. Various busts / Various reverses. RCV 3870ff. We have accumulated a wonderful assortment of folles in EF condition. While our supplies hold, we can offer these at:

Order as item #(SP 3044) \$33/£21

## CONSTANTINE II, as CAESAR 317-337 AD

The eldest son of Constantine I and Fausta. Upon the death of Constantine in 337, he

was given control of the western provinces which included Spain, Gaul and Britain. Early in 340 AD he quarreled with his younger brother Constans and died in an ambush near Aquileia.



**Constantine II, as Caesar.** 330-335 AD. Æ Follis. Laureate bust right / Two soldiers standing with spears and shields, flanking two legionary standards; mint mark in exergue. EF.

Order as item #(SP 3045)

\$33/£21

## BYZANTINE

**Constantine IX**  
1042-1055 AD

Although his family name translates as "fighting in single combat", and his reign was studded with one conflict after another, Constantine IX Monomachos himself was a most unmartial character. There is no record of him leading an army in the field. Instead, he devoted himself to lavish church construction projects, court intrigues, and his mistresses. All this while the Normans seized Byzantine territory in Italy, the Russians sent a fleet down the Black Sea, Turks and Pechenegs ravaged the east, and two usurpers besieged Constantinople itself. In addition, a quarrel between the Roman Pope and the Patriarch of Constantinople in 1054 would begin the breach resulting in the Great Schism, permanently splitting the Christian church into east and west halves. Many later Byzantine writers marked the reign of the irresponsible Constantine IX as the beginning of the long, slow collapse of the empire.

The gold histamenon of Constantine reflects the changing fortunes of the empire.

Although his first coinage preserves the tradition of almost pure gold coinage, at other points in his reign the purity falls to around 75%. The histamenon offered below are from early in his reign, and still retain the traditional purity.



**Constantine IX.** 1042-1055 AD. AV Histamenon. Constantinople mint. +IHS XIS REX REGNANTINM, Christ enthroned / +CWNSTANTIN BASILEU RM, bust of Constantine holding cruciform sceptre and patriarchal globus. SB 1828; DOC III 1a. Choice EF.

Order as item #(SP 3046)

\$395/£245

## ISLAMIC WORLD

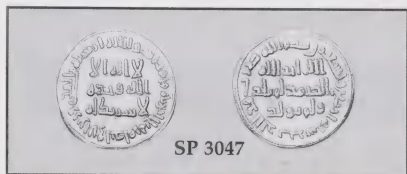
"There is no God but Allah"

The unprecedented rapidity of the Islamic conquests caught everyone by surprise, their opponents — the Byzantines and Persians — as well as the Arabs themselves. After 660 AD the Ummayyad caliphs found themselves rulers of a vast domain stretching from North Africa to the borders of India, without the experience in governing such a realm. One difficulty was the provision of coinage to the new empire. Coins based on the Byzantine bronze follis and the Sasanian silver dirhem served for everyday use, but for large transactions the Byzantine gold solidus remained the standard.

General acceptance of the gold solidus continued until the 690's when the propaganda war between Christianity and Islam began heating up. Appalled and angered by the success of Islamic proselytizing, the



Byzantine emperor Justinian II retaliated in 692 by replacing the simple cross on the solidus with a portrait of Christ and the legend "Jesus Christ, King of Kings". The prop of the Ummayyad economy could no longer be accepted by the devout Muslim. Abd al Malik in 695 AD/AH 75 ordered a radical coinage reform, placing religious formulae on all his coins, gold, silver and bronze. The new gold dinar was struck at Damascus beginning in AH 77. Although dinars of the first year are extraordinarily rare and have brought upwards of \$100,000 at auction, later years are available in abundance as the Byzantine solidus was gradually replaced in circulation. With their simple but elegant calligraphy and good gold content, the early Ummayyad dinars are always popular with collectors seeking an attractive and inexpensive example of a historic gold coin. The pieces we offer are all clean EF, dated AH 94 (712/713 AD), in the reign of al Malik's successor, al Walid.



**UMMAYYADS.** Time of al Walid. AH 94 (712-713 AD). AV Dinar. Damascus mint. Obverse field: the Kalima - "There is no God but Allah, there is no one other with him". Obverse margin: "Mohammad is the prophet (messenger) of Allah, he was sent with guidance and the religion of truth to make it prevail over all others, averse though the idolaters may be". Reverse field: "Allah is one, Allah is eternal, He begets not and is begotten, nor is there anyone other like him". Reverse margin: "In the Name of Allah this dinar was struck in the year four and ninety". Album 127. EF, well struck.

Order as item # (SP 3047)      \$295/£185

## MONGOL TRIBES

*"The Khan of Khans  
The Just  
The Most Mighty  
Genghis Khan"*

Genghis Khan was born Temujin, eldest son of Yesugai, chief of the Borjigid clan of the Mongols. Yesugai was poisoned by a rival tribe, and his son spent his adolescence in the wilderness, spurned by all the warring clans. By force of will he rallied his father's scattered supporters, and one by one overcame all the other clan chiefs. In 1206 a meeting of all the Mongol tribes led to his proclamation as "Khan of Khans" and his new name Genghis Khan. His first conquests were of the northern Chinese states of the Tangut and the Jurchen, capturing the Jurchen capital of Chung-tu (Peking) in 1214. By this time the expansionist Mongol empire had come to the attention of the Muslim lands in the west.

The Khwarizmshah of Persia, Ala al-Din Muhammad, sent an embassy to the court of the Great Khan, offering peaceful relationships and trade. Genghis Khan replied in kind, sending the Persian representatives home with gifts and a further mission of Mongol nobles. In what was surely one of the most wrong-headed schemes in history, the Persian governor of the border town of Otrar seized the Mongol embassy, stole their possessions, and had them murdered. In 1219 the enraged Mongols destroyed Otrar, and upon realizing that the Persians did not have any effective forces to oppose them, went on to conquer the entire empire. Ala al Din died on the shores of the Caspian Sea in 1220, and the Mongols continued westward, overcoming in turn the defenses of the Russian principalities and the mounted knights of the kingdoms of Hungary and Poland. Only a dispute between Mongol commanders saved Germany and the rest of Europe from invasion. It could be said that Inalchuq, the hapless governor of an insignificant Iranian border town, almost caused the destruction of western civilization!

The extraordinarily rare dinars of Ghazna, the only gold coins struck in the name of the great Khan, Genghis Khan, which indicate the mint and date, were struck at the last citadel held by the Khwarizmshahs, where Ala al-Din's son, Jalal al Din, attempted to rally his beaten army. After a few initial successes, Jalal al Din's forces were overwhelmed by an army led by Genghis Khan himself in 1222. The Mongol leader was impressed by Jalal al Din's bravery and after destroying the Persian army allowed Jalal to flee to India, from where he continued to strike out at Mongol territory until his death in 1231. Upon the fall of Ghazna the occupants were divided into artisans and regular citizens, the former to be employed by the conquerors, the latter to be put to death. These gold coins were probably struck by Genghis Khan's direct order to mark the final defeat of Persian arms and the collapse of the empire.



**Mongols. Genghis Khan.** Died 1227 AD. AV Dinar. Struck at Ghazna mint, AH 618 (1221/1222 AD). Reverse field in four lines - "The Khan of Khans, the Just, the Most Mighty Genghis Khan"; marginal legend - "Struck at Ghazna in the year eight and ten and six hundred". Cf. Album 1964. These dinars grade VF, but are normally very crudely struck, causing significant portions of the legends to be missing. *Only five available from our original group of fifty-nine.*  
Order as item # (SP 3048)      \$1600/£1000

## MEDIEVAL EUROPE

### ITALY

#### Venice

#### The Serene Republic

Venice, its lagoon originally a shelter for bandits and refugees, grew into a wealthy trad-

ing powerhouse that dominated Mediterranean trade routes and meddled freely in the affairs of every state it would come into contact with over the centuries. Its system of elected dukes or doges provided a stable government for centuries, while others endured civil war and invasions. Venice's wealth bought it immunity from the troubles of the times, either by the employ of mercenary captains or the use of generous bribes. While Venice was instrumental in defending Europe against Arab and Turkish onslaughts, it was also not averse to disrupting its Christian rivals, turning the Fourth Crusade away from its goal of defending the Holy Land to overthrow the Byzantine emperor at Constantinople in 1204.

Venice's gold ducat and silver grosso were reliable monies known everywhere, accepted by every trading nation (sometimes to the exclusion of its own coinage!), and copied as far away as India. From a recent purchase, we can offer attractively toned, EF silver grossi of two 14th century Venetian doges, Francesco Dandolo and Andrea Dandolo. One little recognized feature of these grossi: although the types would remain unchanged for decades, each separate issue would be distinguished by secret marks, usually symbols found somewhere on the throne of Christ on the obverse. For some rulers up to twenty different marks are known. A little unexplored pathway for the collector!



**Venice. Francesco Dandolo.** 1328-1339. AR Grosso. Enthroned figure of Christ / The Doge and the patron saint of Venice, St. Mark, holding a banner between them. Scarfea 73. Toned EF.

Order as item # (SP 3049)

\$95/£60



SP 3050

**Venice. Andrea Dandolo. 1342-1354. AR Grosso.** Enthroned figure of Christ / The Doge and the patron saint of Venice, St. Mark, holding a banner between them. Scarfea 85. Toned EF. Scarce.

Order as item #(SP 3050) \$95/£60

## THE NEW WORLD

### The Americas

#### The First Coinage of the New World

Almost immediately after the Spanish conquest of Mexico in 1522, the conquistadors and the merchants that followed in their footsteps realized that further exploitation of the economic potential of their colony would require a readily available circulating currency. A request for a mint was finally granted by Charles I in 1535, with minting beginning the next year. The mint in Mexico City was the first European mint in the Americas.

Unlike the later crude "cob" coinage, which was essentially an easily transported form of bullion, the first coinage of Mexico was carefully struck to the highest standards of the day. Silver coinage was minted in the denominations of 4, 3, 2, 1, 1/2 and 1/4 reales. A gold coinage is recorded, but there are no surviving examples. Copper maravedis were also struck, but proved immensely unpopular. Public whippings were employed to force their circulation, to no avail; the natives still threw them away in the lakes.

These four reales, from the second series of coinage struck after 1542 in the name of Charles I and his mother, the mentally unstable Johanna "the Mad", are far superior to

the normal examples seen, being sharply struck on good metal. We have only a very limited number available.



SP 3051

**MEXICO. Carlos and Johanna. Circa 1542. AR 4 Reales.** Juan Gutiérrez, assayer. CAROLVS ET IOHANA REGES, arms of Castile and Leon; mintmark and assayer's initial / +HISPANIARVM ET INDIARVM, towers of Gibraltar with PLVS VLTRA and denomination. KM Mexico 18. EF, with an unusually sharp strike.

Order as item #(SP 3051) \$595/£375

## BRITISH

The history of British coinage is long and varied. The first coins came to Britain from the Gallo-Belgic tribes in the 2nd-1st centuries BC. These circulated throughout south and east England. Julius Caesar's expeditions to England brought the Celts into direct contact with Rome. By this time most of the local tribes were striking their own coinage.

When Rome conquered Britain, her coinage became that of the Roman Empire. The first British Empire was founded by Carausius in 287 AD. From about 287 until 326 AD a Roman mint was present in Britain. The Roman government withdrew in the fifth century and with its withdrawal, the source

for newly minted coins disappeared. Circulating coins were mutilated and heavily clipped. In the late sixth century, as the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms developed, a new coinage—the Sceatta—became the standard denomination. By the mid 700's a new type of coin developed simultaneously in England and France.

A broad, good silver penny became the Saxon and early Norman coin. Even the Viking invaders of the ninth century used this denomination. By the mid 1200's, some five hundred years after its introduction, the penny had fallen on hard times. Simultaneous to the development of the gros tournois in France under Louis IX and Philip IV, we see the introduction of the English groat. The groat was the last of the great medieval denominations.

Under the Tudors realistic portraits replaced the standardized medieval representations. This renaissance in British coin design was a little behind its Italian neighbors. Milled coinage became a permanent fixture under Charles II in 1662. Again, England was a hundred years behind in her coining techniques.

There are many useful books on British coins. We have listed a popular reference below. See the booklist for additional titles.

**Seaby. Coins of England and the United Kingdom.** 1998 Edition. Hardbound. 300+ pages. Fully illustrated. Listing of all the major coin types of Britain from Celtic to modern times. Includes the latest update on Treasure Trove law. The standard reference. Important new updates and price changes.  
**Order as item #(E 120) \$24.95**

## THE GALLIC WAR

### The Caesarean Invasions of 55-54 BC

By the 2nd century BC many Celtic tribes had branches on both sides of the English Channel. The Atrebates, Trinovantes and

Catuvellauni in Britain had extensive contacts with Continental tribes, such as the Ambiani and the Coriosolites. By 125 BC hoards of Continental gold staters begin to appear in Britain. The extent of this contact became of some concern to Julius Caesar after his pacification of Gaul. He saw Britain as a potential source of trouble as long as it remained beyond Roman control. Thus in 55 BC he initiated the first Roman invasion of Britain. The campaigns of 55 and 54 found Caesar caught up in tribal rivalries as the Atrebates and Trinovantes allied themselves with Rome, while the Catuvellauni became the focus of native resistance. Caesar eventually gained the nominal submission of the tribes of southern Britain, but the hit and run tactics of the British warriors and the savage storms of the English Channel cost him dearly. It would be another century before Roman troops again attempted a landing in Britain, but the landing of Caesar at Deal saw Britain enter the orbit of the Roman Empire and would be a turning point in British history.

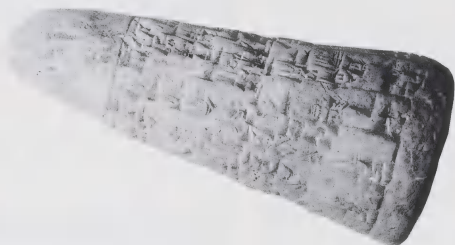
The gold staters offered below are typical of the pieces that saw circulation on both sides of the English Channel, and which Caesar did not want to find financing revolt among the tribes of Gaul.



**Celtic. Gallic War.** Circa 60-55 BC. AV Stater. Blank / Disjointed horse right. Van Arsdell, *Celtic Coinage of Britain*, 54-56. Choice EF.  
**Order as item #(SP 3052) \$495/£310**



### A SUMERIAN FOUNDATION CONE OF KING ISHME-DAGAN OF ISIN 1953-1935 BC



Clay cones or nails (cones with flattened mushroom-shaped heads) were inscribed with dedicatory inscriptions, in many hundreds of duplicates, and embedded in the walls of structures. Although the cones are hand-written by a number of scribes, they all have the same distribution of text in columns and on lines, showing that they were all copied from a standard exemplar. The text is written around the shaft of the cone, in two columns of equal length, leaving the remainder of the cone blank.

The text records the building of the wall by Ishme-Dagan, after exempting the citizens from taxes and freeing them from corvée labor (labor exacted in lieu of taxes). Ancient Isin is the modern site of Tell Bahriyat, located on an ancient course of the Euphrates river in central Babylonia. This site has been excavated by German archaeologists over the last century.

The text translates as follows: *Ishme-Dagan, mighty man, King of Isin, King of the four quarters (of the world), when he cancelled the taxes of Nippur, the city beloved by Enlil, and excused its men from military/corvée service, he built the wall of the city of Isin, naming it "Ishme-Dagan, with Enlil, the mighty (?) of the Great God."*

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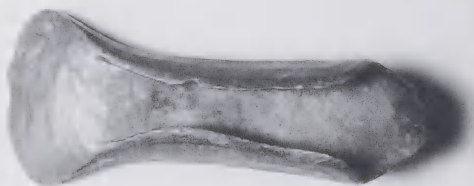
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## EXCEPTIONAL BRONZE AGE WING AND SOCKET AXES Circa 1400-900 BC.

With the discovery of the "Iceman" in the Alps a few years ago, attention has been focused on the late Iron Age period and the cultures that existed at that time. As no coins existed in this period, one looks to other artifacts to examine the culture. One of the more commonly encountered artifacts of the late Bronze age is the axe. The axes were used in agriculture, for ceremonies and in small game hunting.

Our small offering of axes, all with beautiful green patinas, appears to have originated in central Europe. They compare favorably with pieces listed by Herbert Schutz in his work **The Prehistory of Germanic Europe** (1983 Yale University Press). On page 147 in illustration 93 he depicts identical axes from Styria in Austria. Two axes typical of the middle to late bronze age period are offered for your consideration.



**The Socket Axe.** Circa 1250 BC. Bronze - average length 3-4 inches. This axe was designed to receive a knee-bent shaft from above, held in place by thongs. With a nice green patina.

*Order as item #*

*A302 @ \$450/£275*



**The Wing Axe.** Circa 1250 BC. Bronze - average length 3-4 inches. This elongated axehead, with pronounced wing flanges was designed to receive a split knee-bent shaft from above, the flanges (wings) serving as vice grips that once hammered into place insured a tight fit. With a nice green patina.

*Order as item #*

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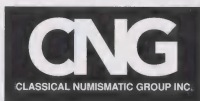
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Classical Numismatic Studies  
No.2

## The Early Seleucid Mint of Susa



by Brian Kritt

A New Book by Brian Kritt

## The Early Seleucid Mint of Susa

Seleucus' coinages at the ancient Persian city of Susa are among the most varied and evocative of all of his issues. This rich and complex coinage was organized and cataloged by Edward T. Newell nearly sixty years ago. Since that time numerous new specimens and varieties of these coins have appeared, and recent scholarship has shown that Newell's arrangement requires substantial revision. Important new hoards have been discovered which provide more precise chronological evidence than was previously available.

In *The Early Seleucid Mint of Susa*, Seleucus' issues at this city have been reorganized and provided with a new chronology based on sophisticated methods of analysis. This has led to numerous discoveries in the dating and purposes of the coinages of other contemporary Seleucid mints, and solved important historical problems. Among the corollaries, a new chronology has been developed for the transition of minting operations from Babylon to Susa on the Tigris, and a third century coinage of Babylon has been identified. The activities of Seleucus' son Antiochus as co-regent have been placed in the perspective of coinage changes in the east in this period.

A native revolt against the Seleucids in Persis in the early third century has been identified and dated. An unusual new Susa tetradrachm indicates the presence of native Persian officials in the Susa mint in the early Seleucid period. These and numerous other discoveries make *The Early Seleucid Mint of Susa* of great interest and importance to students of early Seleucid coinages and eastern Hellenistic history.

Brian Kritt's previous book, *Seleucid Coins of Bactria*, presented a complete reassessment and reattribution of the Seleucid coinages of that province, but uncovered problems in the picture at Susa. This led to the current book, which has provided new insight into the history and administration of the eastern Seleucid empire and the roles of its coinages.

Dr. Kritt is a professional classical numismatist and researcher in ancient Greek coins, with degrees in physics and mathematics, and a background in classical history and languages. For several years now, he has been studying the early Seleucid coinages in the east, resulting in his two books, which have undertaken new and fundamental reassessments of these complex coinages.

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Carlton, R. Scott. **The International Encyclopædic Dictionary of Numismatics.** 1996. Hardbound with dust cover. 444 pages, over 7000 entries, all researched by top numismatic scholars. Primarily written for the student of US and world coinage, this new book explains the meaning of everything from the Abbey Crown to zinc, with translations of more than 6000 foreign numismatic terms. If you need to know how to say clad coinage in German, French, Portuguese, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Finnish, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Polish, Hungarian, Romanian, Greek, Hebrew, Russian, Turkish, Korean, Japanese or Chinese, this is the book for you. Only basic coverage of ancient numismatic terms.

**\$39.95 (X223)**

Cooper, Denis R. **The Art and Craft of Coinmaking. A History of Minting Technology.** 1988. Hardbound. 264 pages, 285 illustrations. An historical account of the tools and machines used to produce coins from the beginning of coinage to the present time. The first seven chapters have information relevant to ancient and medieval numismatics. Winner of the 1989 IAPN Book of the Year.

**\$55.00 (X106)**

Hoberman, Gerald. **The Art of Coins and Their Photography.** 1981. Hardbound. 397 pages, beautifully illustrated throughout. A must for the coin photographer. This book is a unique study of the aesthetic appeal of coins as communicated by photography. The main section of the book transports us through 2500 years of art and history with the finest numismatic photography. The latter part of the book contains the only definitive treatise on numismatic photography, simply explained. OP, under twenty available.

**\$110.00 (X105)**

Howgego, Christopher. **Ancient History from Coins.** 1995. 176 pages, 23 plates. Hardbound. An introduction into the techniques, methods, problems and advantages to using coins in the study of history. Covers the period from the beginning of coinage to the reign of Diocletian.

**\$60.00 (H189)**

Lorber, Cathy. **Treasures of Ancient Coinage: From the Private Collections of American Numismatic Society Members.** 1996. Card covers. 124 pages, 113 coins catalogued, illustrated throughout. An exhibit catalogue for an exhibit held in conjunction with the 1996 New York International Numismatic Convention. 113 superb coins including: A superb Naxos tetradrachm, a gorgeous Akragas tetradrachm, a Pharnaces I gold stater, a T. Quinctius Flamininus aureus, a Stadium aureus of Septimius Severus plus much more. This is the first volume in what will hopefully be a long series. A must for any library.

**\$25.00 (X221)**

Penn, Dr. R.G. **Medicine on Ancient Greek and Roman Coins.** 1994. Card cover. 192 pages, illustrated throughout. A fascinating survey of medicine and its many aspects revealed on ancient Greek and Roman coins.

**\$39.95 (X159)**

Sayles, Wayne G. **Ancient Coin Collecting.** 1996. Hardbound with dust jacket. 208 pages. 500 photographs. Wayne Sayles, a recognized expert in the field of ancient coins, has written a book that is an excellent reference for the beginning ancient coin collector (also a nice addition to any collector's library). Details strategies for finding, collecting and interpreting ancient coins. Includes history, politics, and mythology related to ancient coins and their minting. Pronunciation guide, tables and charts. Coins from ancient Rome, Egypt, Greece and more.

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Sayles, Wayne G. **Ancient Coin Collecting II. Numismatic Art of the Greek World.** 1997. Hardbound with dust cover. 208 pages, over 200 photographs of Greek coins. The second book in this series delves into the artistry of the Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic periods of Greek coins. Includes a discussion of the various die engravers and their signatures on the coins, a portrait gallery of the Hellenistic kings, and a look at some of the great artistic masterpieces of Greek coinage. Also included is a geographic list of mints and a bibliography. A good introduction to the study of Greek coinage.

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Williams, Jonathan [editor]. **Money, A History.** 1997. Hardbound with dust cover. 256 pages, illustrated throughout. Written by a team of specialist curators from the Department of Coins and Medals in the British Museum, this book examines the history of money, its spread and cultural diversity throughout the world, from the earliest known records of payments to the cashless money of our own day. Starting with a survey of the monetary systems of ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt, this book follows

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